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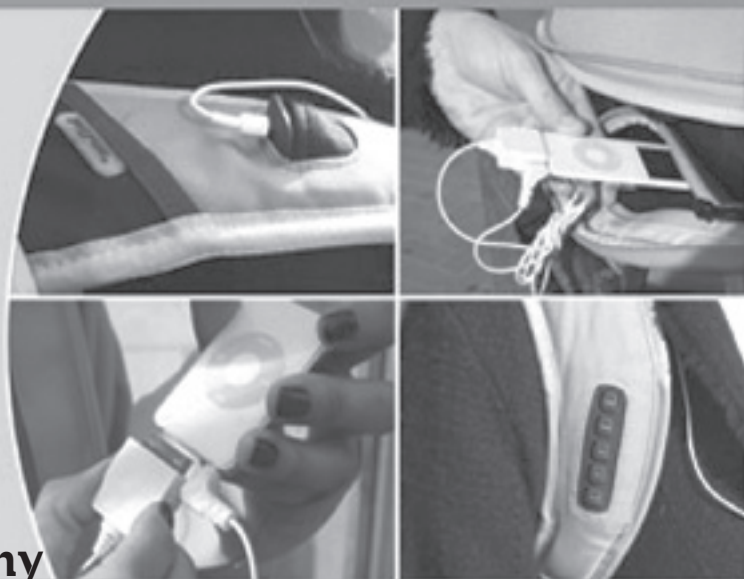
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Here and There

Inside the ‘Chronicle’ and out, we’re looking for open minds

BY LOUIS BLACK

HERE: Obviously, the *Chronicle* Web edition is going to have to become its own entity, not just a reflection of the weekly published issue. Crucial to this goal is to make the Web edition interactive. The *Chronicle* comes out of the community and is published for it. Therefore we need to make it as easy as we can for people to interact with and participate in the *Chronicle*.

On the *Chronicle* Web home page there is now a link to *Chronicle* Forums (austinchronicle.com/forum). I realize this is like unveiling the Model T in a time of solar-powered cars, but we are well aware that this is just a way of beginning.

In order to participate in these forums, you do not have to register; there is no password to remember. You can immediately send a response. You can also critique a movie, disagree with a *Chronicle* review, plug a local band, discuss the art scene, vent on the Middle East or worry about Austin. Basically these are open forums with suggested general categories. You can respond to something that appeared in the *Chronicle* or offer your own thoughts on some completely new tangent.

Dealing with new forums, as with initiating interactivity in general, we encounter the classic publication chicken-and-egg problem. Unless there are a lot of people posting interesting new pieces on the forums, generating substantial traffic to read and contribute further will be difficult. If traffic is slow, people won’t be regularly reading and answering new observations/thoughts/opinions, which means that, consequently, few others will be adding new posts. And so on.

Oops! Last week’s “Naked City” bullet about the **Meet Your Match Canine-ality Adoption Program** contained an incorrect figure for the number of adoptions the program had fostered in July. The correct number as of last week was 70. The *Chronicle* regrets the error.

The *Chronicle* by its very nature is designed to invite widespread discussion and participation. Certainly in this community this is true, by definition, of just about every publication, even if not explicitly intended. This is an engaged, perhaps even overly engaged, town.

So, we plan to offer more arenas for dialogue and debate because this is both interesting in and of itself, and healthy for the local culture. Considering the *Chronicle* as an entrance point – because of those who read it and how they do so – these exchanges should be lively and informed.

Please make the extra effort and help prime the pump. Read through the forums of interest to you, post comments, and offer replies. Sure it’s in a very early stage, but over time, we are hoping that this should mature into an ongoing, open, and open-ended community dialogue.

AND THERE: In the next couple of weeks I want to return to talking about some major ideas that drive this column. On the way there I want to offer some assumptions that are basic to my overall arguments. There is no expectation that these arguments will change minds or invite agreement but simply that they may make things a bit clearer, eliciting more discussion and comment. Under the best of circumstances, clarity is a description rarely applied to this column. Trying to speak clearly, honestly, and broadly (considering objections and more fully rounding thoughts within initial discussions), I often confuse or lose myself when writing it. Usually I then rewrite and refocus, abandoning loftier points for simpler ones. Things are usually edited and smoothed out before you read this.

There are many basic assumptions, each impossible to explain in a single column. Rather than accumulate too many of them unexplained, I’ll roll them out slowly.

1) The world of “I” is very different from the world of “you.” Which is considered a bit below.

2) The past is not just a fiction but a lie, the present is misunderstood, and the future is unknowable. This I began to approach in a previous column (“Constitutional Conventions,” June 9).

Okay then, 1) The world of “I” is very different from the world of “you.” Most people argue very much from their own perspective without even considering that it is a perspective. Self-interest is instead viewed as common sense. The standard is personal, arguments start and end with one’s views. Words, terms, facts, and so on are simply weapons marshaled to achieve ends; they have little external meaning. Those who screamed the loudest for “objective” news have been proven to have actually wanted the news to be even more extremely subjective. Only they want it in harmony with their own beliefs, not opposed to or questioning them.

Starting on very basic levels, let’s consider how certain things are viewed. “Nepotism” is when someone you don’t know gives a relative or a friend a job. “Deserving” is the label when it happens to you. People with lax morals get away with disobeying the law because of inept, soft-hearted cops and liberal judges. When you are stopped for speeding it is an outrageous example of misplaced priorities. (“Yes, I was speeding but only about 8 miles over the limit; isn’t there something better cops could be doing with their time?”) Other people who complain about being discriminated against or having bigoted misperceptions perpetuated in the culture and/or by speech are overly sensitive, politically-correct obsessives who are more interested in personal privilege than a truly democratic and open society. When it is happening to you (your religion, nationality, ethnic group, etc.) it is an outrageous show of oppressive prejudice being perpetuated for the worst reasons. In context, for example, white people complaining of “reverse” race discrimination are doing exactly what they hate about the logic behind affirmative action.

People writing to the *Chronicle* often accuse me of some of the many-more-than-seven deadly sins of secular humanism – moral relativism not believing in good or evil, not believing there is an objective, knowable truth, and so on.

There is, of course, a difference between believing there is a clear good and a clear evil and knowing exactly which is which. The former implies that one is on a lifelong voyage toward knowledge and toward God, hoping to come to an understanding of good and evil. This view takes religious belief, sacred texts, and learned teachings as marking the beginning of a quest, suggesting the acceptance that there is something unknowable about life, the universe, itself, and God’s plan.

But those who write are almost never interested in this difference or are even distantly suggesting the former. Their belief in the absolute isn’t about asking questions but, as is soon made obvious, knowing answers. The letter writers are not just certain that there is a very clear, unchanging good and an equally clear, unchanging evil but that they concretely and absolutely know them.

This leads to a corollary of statement 1): Just because people claim to believe in absolutes doesn’t mean they actually respect them or even try to do so. My experience with those who insist that there are moral absolutes is that they are just better at shaping an argument about any circumstances so as to fit their vision. They don’t act or respond differently, but their ability to rationalize and handily categorize their behavior and intentions, as well as everybody else’s behavior and intentions, is flawless.

I do not believe the people who tell us how religious they are, how much more they believe in God, and what a better relationship with the deity they have than does _____ (fill in the blank). Instead, this very bragging seems presumptuous and blasphemous, offered by hypocrites so actively and firmly criticizing others they don’t really have the time to worry about or work on their own behavior, morality, actions, and righteousness. ■



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Save Las Manitas

Dear Editor,

Re: Las Manitas ["My Migas, My City," News, July 21]: So this is progress? Is every vestige of weirdness in Austin doomed?

I've been going to Las Manitas since it was created, and Lidia and Cynthia Pérez are my heroes. Feisty Cynthia always has a wry and very welcome comment on current politics – and sometimes she even gives a much-appreciated back rub. (Definitely not the Bush surprise version he stupidly bestowed upon German Chancellor Merkel!)

Other cities have saved social landmarks. As but one example, legendary P.J. Clarke's restaurant in the middle of Manhattan was saved from the wrecking ball when a huge 45-story skyscraper was designated for the block. As the Web site says, the restaurant has stood on its corner site for some 130 years (www.pjclarkes.com).

Of course it didn't fit in with the developer's design to have one corner removed from a building site where the value of land is virtually measured in square inches. But P.J. Clarke's was left virtually undisturbed on its corner, regardless of the cost and design changes necessary.

It's easier and cheaper, of course, for a developer to level a block and start from scratch. But in this instance, a major part of Austin's soul would be destroyed. Can we allow that? I hope not.

Claude M. Gruener

'Of Course It's Doug!'

Dear Editor,

Okay, this is getting stupid! I would expect this in the Ohio or Iowa type Chronicle. But *The Austin Chronicle*? Yes, the guy in the picture with Jerry Wexler is the one and only Sir Dad Sahn ["TCB," Music, July 14]. Why did no one call me or Shawn on such a simple thing as the Atlantic Session photos? How do I know? Well, for one, Dad used to carry a white comb in his back pocket! Plus, the Sahn family has tons of photos of that same session! Still, no phone call to back that up! I'm so sad, Raoul; now that you have confirmation tell everyone, OK? Here's a little bit of info that you don't know ... the Atlantic Session is also the *Red Headed Stranger* era. Wexler signed Willie right after these sessions! Again, no phone call! You've gotta be on crack! Call next time, OK?

Shandon Sahn

p.s. Check out the white comb in his back pocket in the photo.

Austin: Grow Up and Be a City!

Dear Editor,

Re: "My Migas, My City" [News, July 21]: *The Austin Chronicle* apparently can't see the forest for the migas. Austin has already made "a bargain with el diablo" by ignoring its growing population and fighting development at every

turn. While Katherine Gregor is getting readers riled up on what are essentially rumors, Austin's culture is already falling apart. Austin has two choices here: Either we get distracted by one block of development while the city continues to sprawl, or we decide that Austin has to grow up and be a real city.

The loss of culture is a legitimate concern, but really, the worst that can happen here is that Las Manitas moves into the La Pena building and has more customers because there are more people Downtown. Maybe they can stay open past 4pm? By the same logic, maybe Escuelita will have more families to serve.

The city and builders know these are valuable businesses. I fear the spirit of cooperation and compromise mentioned at the end of the article will get lost in a knee-jerk reaction to development.

Shannon Jordy

Coverage Not Fair and Balanced

Dear Editor,

It certainly strikes me as odd that Austin never has had a music critic that is worth a shit. What is really funny is that critics from other parts of the country have a better and fairer handle on the local music scene than the people who write for Austin papers. *The Washington Post* or *The New York Times* have more balanced coverage than the *Chron* ever has.

The problem I have with the *Chronicle* started with the demise of the Back Room and the lack of coverage of the metal scene in general.

Metal heads and prog rock fans have never had anyone willing to stand up to the nerds at the *Chronicle*, who would love to rewrite history with the Ramones or the Clash as the Beatles!

POSTMARKS ONLINE UPDATED DAILY

austinchronicle.com/postmarks

I just want to know what the *Chronicle* plans to do about it? There is a large group of readers that are being left out because the *Chron* chooses to slam and or ignore certain music styles. I am certainly hoping for a change in a more fair-and-balanced way.

Thank you and goodnight.

Jack Pennington

[Editor's note: See this week's Music section for more on this subject.]

A Voice of Sanity

Dear Editor,

Re: Michael Ventura's Got a Light? ["Letters @ 3am," July 21]: I have always enjoyed Mr. Ventura's delightful perspective of the world's woes. His latest article compels me to write and applaud him as a genuine voice of sanity in a seeming world of fruitcake. Bravo.

Wayne Wylie

Just Concrete and More People

Dear Louis,

I just finished the article about the "new" Downtown project and was so sorry to see such an article ["My Migas, My City," News, July 21]. Of course, it was bound to happen sooner or later.

continued on p.10

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR must be signed with full name and include daytime phone number, full address, or e-mail address. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Letters may not be edited, added to, or changed by sender once we receive them.

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Just please, please, people, get it done right or Austin will be just like the sucky, uncool, soulless city of Houston. As it is, when I do head toward Austin, all I see from the east side of Elgin (Yes! Elgin) is concrete and more people. Unnerving and disturbing how we tear up this planet like we have all the rights in the world. My theory/opinion/saying: “Most of the problems on this planet are due to the stupidity of arrogance.”

Imagine how hot it will be with all of that concrete in a confined area – oh, and how about the demand that will be placed on city services (i.e., water, waste water ...) – oh, and how about the traffic when all of those who live Downtown but do not work Downtown leave for their jobs, in those vehicles that will need their “own space.”

Later dude. ...

PK. Landry

Piece on Jerry Williams Good

Dear Editor,

I just stumbled across Bill Bentley's article on Jerry Williams from January while I was trying to find some info on Williams on the Net [“The Lone Ranger,” Music, Jan. 27].

I still have a copy of *Gone* that I bought back in 1980 ... and it has driven me crazy trying to find out what happened to this guy.

I knew he had written a lot of songs, but I never knew he wound up here in my state.

Judging from the topics of other articles Bill has written, I need to check out austinchronicle.com more often.

Tony Sellars
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Helmets for Car Drivers?

Dear Editor,

The city of Austin claims to support clean air and clean transportation. Purchasers of electric or hybrid cars get a year's free parking Downtown. People who walk for transportation get nothing, and now those who bicycle are threatened with a mandatory adult bicycle helmet law. As Bill James notes [“Postmarks,” July 21], the state (not the city) has an adult motorcycle helmet law, but most motorbikers are exempt from it, and police do not chase motorcyclists for riding bareheaded. Should the proposed law pass, police will chase bicyclists, but not motorcyclists, for riding without helmets. Would the City Council consider a law requiring riders in electric and hybrid cars, but not in regular gas-guzzlers, to wear race-car helmets?

Helmet law proponents, such as former Mayor Todd, are nearly always sport bicyclists, not utility bicyclists. For them, bicycling is a sport that comes with sports gear. In cities like Amsterdam, where utility cycling is mainstream, people ride bicycles in suits, tight skirts, high heels, and so on. They don't usually wear helmets. And they have far lower death and injury rates than helmeted American bicyclists.

Why do some sports cyclists feel they must force helmets on all utility cyclists? Amateur race-car drivers don't try to put race-car helmets on ordinary motorists, although such helmets would no doubt save lives and reduce medical costs.

In 1996, Austin's City Council unexpectedly imposed an all-ages bicycle helmet law. While circulating a petition to put this law to a vote, I spoke with a young nurse. She said she liked helmet laws because she had seen head trauma in some injured bicyclists. I said, “I bet you've seen a lot more head trauma in people injured in cars.” She said yes, that was true. I said, “Would

you support a law requiring people in cars to wear race-car helmets? It would save lives and reduce head injuries.”

“For cars?” she squeaked, in a voice that went up two octaves. “No!” Then she actually ran away.

Yours truly,
Amy Babich

Jeffs Just a Runt

Dear sir,

Thank you so much for your informative and detailed article on Warren Jeffs [“Meet the New Neighbors,” News, July 29, 2005]. I live in Britain, and last night there was a TV documentary on Warren Jeffs, and I was just curious to know more. He is a total runt, to put it politely, and to be honest, I doubt very much if the FBI will ever catch him. He has so many followers who believe him to be sent from God that they will keep him from being caught, which is a shame. From what I can gather, he has done so much damage that he needs to be punished. Thanks again for your informative article. Well done.

Angela Bond
Upminster, Essex
England

Drug Laws Not About Health

Dear Editor,

Regarding Jim Hightower's thoughtful July 21 column [“The Hightower Report”], if health outcomes determined drug laws instead of cultural norms, marijuana would be legal. Unlike alcohol, marijuana has never been shown to cause an overdose death, nor does it share the addictive properties of tobacco. Like any drug, marijuana can be harmful if abused, but jail cells are inappropriate as health interventions and ineffective as deterrents.

The first marijuana laws were enacted in response to Mexican migration during the early 1900s, despite opposition from the American Medical Association. Dire warnings that marijuana inspires homicidal rages have been counterproductive at best. White Americans did not even begin to smoke pot until a soon-to-be entrenched government bureaucracy began funding reefer madness propaganda.

By raiding voter-approved medical-marijuana providers in California, the very same U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration that claims illicit drug use funds terrorism is forcing cancer and AIDS patients into the hands of street dealers. Apparently marijuana prohibition is more important than protecting the country from terrorism.

The following *Virginia Law Review* article offers a good overview of the cultural roots of marijuana legislation: www.druglibrary.org/schaffer/Library/studies/vlr/vlrtc.htm.

For additional historical background please see the Canadian Senate report: www.parl.gc.ca/37/1/parlbus/commbus/senate/com-e/ille-e/rep-e/summary-e.pdf.

Sincerely,
Robert Sharpe, MPA
Policy analyst
Common Sense for Drug Policy
www.csdp.org

MetroRail Night Owl Service?

Dear Editor,

Capital Metro unveiled its MetroRail line this week [“Naked City,” News, July 21]. As a rail-supporting, sometime-bicycling, New Urbanist, music-loving, crunchy-liberal Austinite, I can't help but wonder: Why will the trains only run at rush hour?

The current MetroRail plan serves urban professionals that live or work Downtown. In time, the plan will attract additional develop-

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ment along the line. Great! But, what if you are a night reveler in this town? Will the train serve you?

MetroRail should offer Night Owl Service. Most everyone who has ever headed Downtown for a band, a premiere, a dinner, or even – dare I admit it – gelato, knows nighttime parking is a bitch. It's either \$7 a spot, endless circling, or sharing a sloppy road at 2am. With Austin nightlife an honored institution, it seems that those heading to and from Downtown from 9pm to 2am might prove a loyal rider base. I know I'd certainly ride it then.

But don't listen to me. Apparently I live too near the worst block in Austin.

Yours,
Lonny Stern
Rosewood neighbor

Defending Whistlers

Dear Editor,

I would defend whistlers as a group from critics such as Ms. Jackson ["Postmarks," July 14] on the same grounds that I would defend public singing: It is healthy to have a song in one's heart. Indeed, whistlers, singers, and other musically inclined people depend on song to ease them through the mundane and difficult moments of life, and this is why they react with hostility when asked to stop.

Besides, I should think that living in New York with taxicabs, jackhammers, exploding buildings, and Robert De Niro constantly shouting out the window would rather inure a person to the more benign sound of a whistling human being.

Sincerely,
Sean Ragan

[Editor's note: The article in question is a little piece called "This Blows" by Jay Hardwig and first appeared in The Austin Chronicle in 2000 (austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/issue/)]

story?oid=oid%3A77448). We're thrilled that a feature from a beloved long-lost freelancer is generating interest today. If you are interested in more Jay, check out our author archive: austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/authors/jayhardwig.html.]

Fixing Education Easier Said Than Done

Dear Editor,

Golly, thank God all the candidates for governor are going to fix education; now all our kids will be going off to school at Harvard and MIT. Wonder how they're going to "fix" education? The problem is not something a governor or a school superintendent can fix, or they would have, right? This "crisis-in-public-schools" bullshit has been going on for 30 years; one would have to assume that if "the government" had a solution or fix, they would have implemented it, yeah? The problem with public schools is unfit parents and people like our own superintendent, who constantly suggest they can "provide an education." If a parent were not feeding his or her kids, they'd be declared unfit by the state and everyone. Yet, when a parent robs a child of his birthright of achievement, nothing happens. Parents need to be involved in their kids' education; they need to teach their kids to read and do basic math before they get to school; they need to make sure the kids are doing their homework and projects and know what kind of grades they are getting. The big mistake was removing parents from education, and not one candidate has even mentioned parents once in their campaign speeches on "the big fix." Wonder what the cost per grade per student is going to be when they're all making straight A's?

Carl Swanson
continued on p.12

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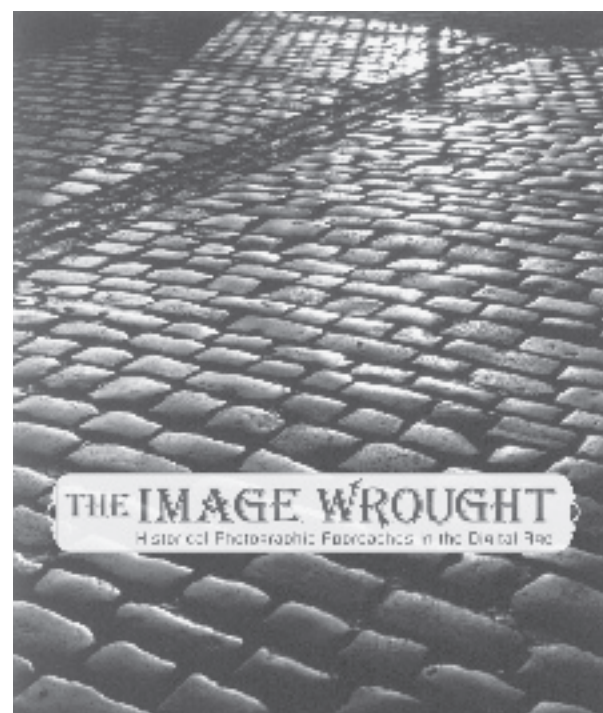


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Cars but at What Cost?

Dear Editor,

In response to Eric Harwell's letter of July 7 ["Postmarks"]. Yes, there will always be cars but at what cost? I'm a typical 56-year-old American who has owned some sort of car or van since I was 20 years old. And I've loved my cars.

But lately I've had to ask myself some hard questions. What am I going to do when gasoline is \$5 or \$10 a gallon? I believe the days of cheap oil are coming to an end. As I write this, sweet, light crude is hovering around \$75 a barrel. How will I deal with the personal hardships, as gas prices slowly creep up?

One way to change is to drive less; no more compulsive motoring. I own a bicycle now, I walk and take the bus several times a week. I can't change anyone else, but I can change me.

Thanks,
Al Coovert

Ethanol and Old Cars

Dear Editor,

I am all in favor of ethanol. I just have one question, that being, what do those of us who drive older model cars do? My car is 12 years old, and there is no way that I can afford to purchase a new one. I don't believe that my car will run on ethanol; what do I do?

Thank you,
Jen Booth

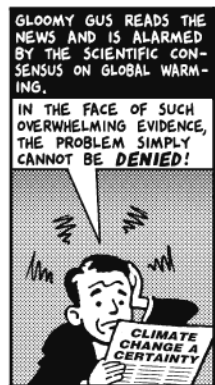
Tolls Levied East of I-35

Dear Editor,

I understand that the *Chronicle* has limited space for news coverage. As is often the

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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case, coverage of toll-road issues leaves out the concerns of people living east of I-35. In a nutshell:

CAMPO has approved building brand-new "free" freeways west of I-35. Not a single mile of new untolled freeway is proposed for east of I-35.

CAMPO will not toll any roads west of I-35 that had previously been funded with gas tax dollars. Every mile of every road east of I-35 that was previously funded with gas tax dollars will be tolled.

CAMPO has approved the tolling of four existing freeway facilities east of I-35. Not a single existing freeway facility west of I-35 is slated for tolls.

POSTMARKS ONLINE UPDATED DAILY

austinchronicle.com/postmarks

CTRMA has publicly stated that toll roads east of I-35 will be used as "cash cows" to subsidize road projects west of I-35.

CTRMA director Mike Heiligenstein said that replacing tolls with increased gas taxes would cost "\$2 to \$3 dollars per gallon." CAMPO staff estimated the cost at "1.6 to 2.1 cents per gallon."

None of the new "free" freeway projects proposed for the CAMPO area are located in Travis County. Travis County gas tax payments will be shifted to other counties' "pass-through financing" projects to subsidize sprawl, or the Trans-Texas Corridor boondoggle.

US 183S, if built as current plans propose, will have 18 lanes where it crosses the Colorado River.

Vincent May
Elgin

Applauding Moser

Dear Editor,

Thank you Stephen Moser for contributing to beauty and peace in Austin: first, by publishing that exquisite photograph in your column ["After a Fashion," Arts, July 14]. It is a work of art. Second, by reminding parents that their child-rearing responsibilities do not cease when they walk into a restaurant.

I applaud you,
Declan Mantis

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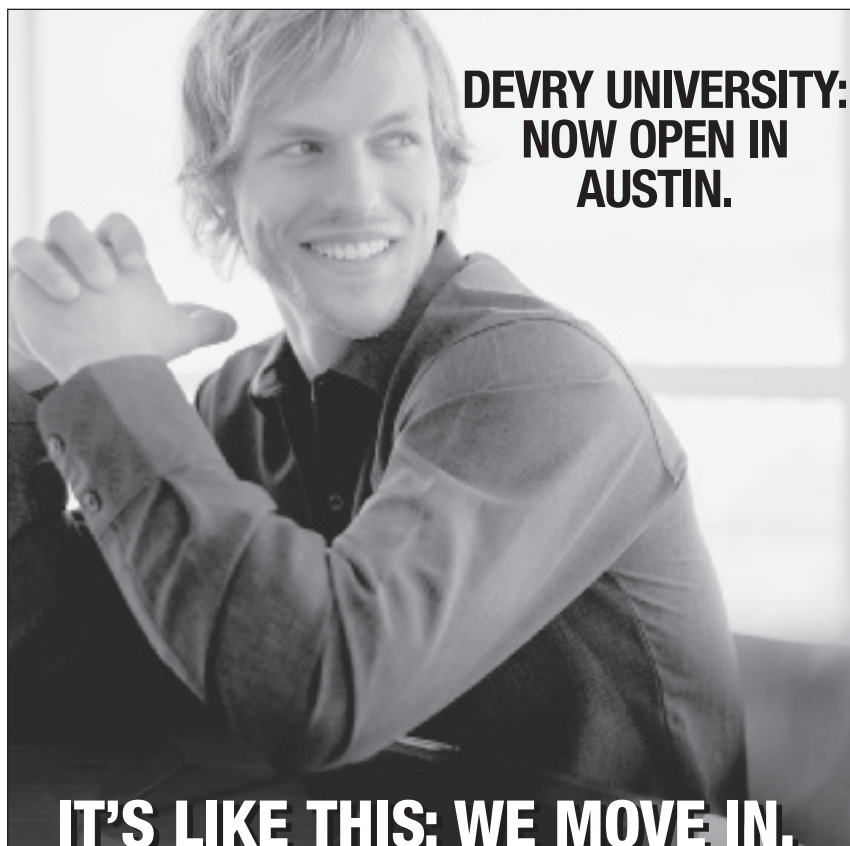
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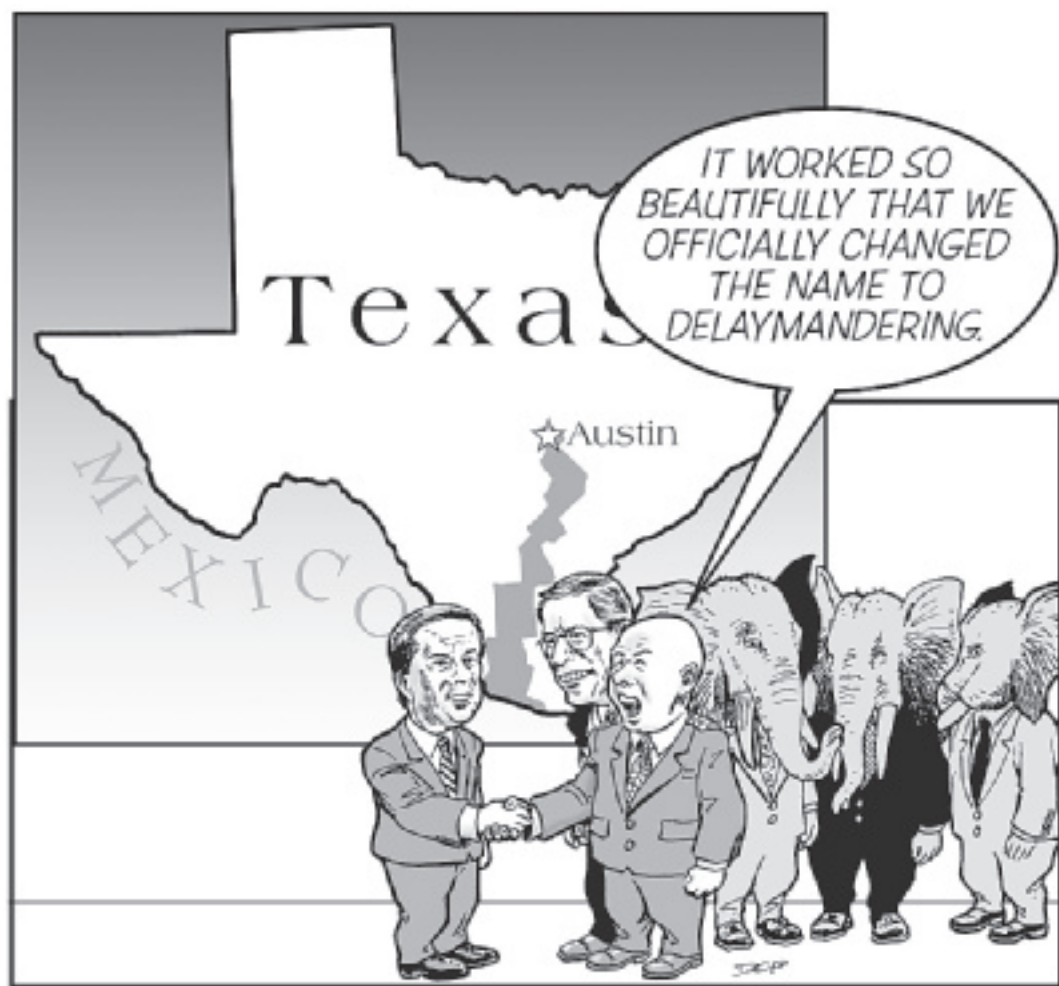
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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“It is incredible that the District Attorney’s office is thwarted in their efforts to prosecute public officials because they are allowed to hide behind the lax and vague codes of the **Texas Ethics Commission**. ... We question whether it is really an independent, nonpartisan, and effective agent for the enforcement of the ethics of public officials.”

– The 390th Travis Co. grand jury, in a report to Judge Julie Kocurek on state campaign-finance laws

HEADLINES

- ▶ The **City Council** returns from summer hiatus today (Thursday) to address a mere 153 agenda items, including such troubling measures as wastewater-treatment plant funding, red light traffic cameras, a few dozen zoning hearings, and (oh yeah) the proposed 2006-07 budget ... bring your sleeping bags. See “Beside the Point,” p.16.
- ▶ The final post-municipal election **Contribution & Expenditure** reports were filed last week with the City Clerk, confirming a cool million spent by all sides in the battle over Propositions 1 and 2. That kind of change could buy a whole lotta improvements to Barton Springs Pool.
- ▶ At press time, owners of Las Manitas Avenue Cafe and other **small businesses in the 200 block of Congress** were meeting with representatives of the pending Marriott convention hotel development planned for the property, in hopes of working out some accommodation to help preserve the community’s heritage. See “Escuelita Graduates,” p.18.

NAKED CITY

- ▶ Travis Co. District Judge Gisela Triana ruled on July 19 that the city violated the **free speech and assembly rights** of members of the activist Democracy Coalition in 2001 when Austin police barred them from gathering across the street from the Governor’s Mansion to protest against President George W. Bush. The ruling, at the end of a three-day trial last week (the second time in three years that the case has been heard in Travis Co. court), cites the city for discrimination against the protesters, but does not award any monetary damages, nor require police to rewrite any specific policies. The activists claimed that APD, by enforcing city policy and procedure, violated their free-speech rights by denying them access to the traditional protest area directly across from the Governor’s Mansion – even though pro-Bushies had been allowed to cross to show their support for the prez. Although a jury in 2003 cleared two APD officers from any individual liability in the case, District Judge Margaret Cooper pre-emptively removed the city from that suit, thereby blocking jurors from considering whether any

city “custom, policy, or practice” of dealing with protesters had violated their rights of free speech and free assembly. The activists appealed, and the 3rd Court of Appeals ruled that Cooper had erred and that the protesters had a right to have a jury decide the matter.

– Jordan Smith

- ▶ With council anxious to get the meter running, it looks like a **lottery** – drawing names out of a hat – will indeed be how the city selects its newest **taxi franchise**. In response to the acquisition of Roy’s Taxi by Yellow Cab, the city created 55 taxi permits for a new cab company; three companies – Capital City, Lone Star, and Longhorn – applied and were found to have met the minimum qualifications. Having met these meager requirements, under changes to the city charter in 2003, the franchise stands to be awarded via lottery. The system seemed haphazard to the urban transportation commission, whose members rapidly assembled a subcommittee to change the award process to a more ranked, weighted system. But they may have run out of time; going into today’s meeting, it appears Councilmember Mike Martinez doesn’t have the votes to opt out of the system. Of course, council is under no directive to act, so if Martinez’s motion finds a second (and third, and fourth), the decision could be delayed.
- ▶ When council returns from hiatus today, July 27, it’s one day after a historic occasion for disabled Americans: July 26 marks the 26th anniversary of the **Americans With Disabilities Act**. To commemorate the day, the Austin Mayor’s Committee for People With Disabilities has honored eight businesses for their commitment to accessibility. They include the AMC 14 Barton Creek, Amy’s Ice Creams on South Congress, Jo’s Hot Coffee, Mangia Pizza’s Burnet Road location, Nordstrom, Opal Divine’s Penn Field, Schlotzsky’s West Canyon Drive store, and Sears Grand. The news isn’t all good, however – yesterday, the Texas Civil Rights Project filed 16 lawsuits across the state against establishments they feel don’t meet ADA code, including three popular Austin haunts: Oilcan Harry’s, Vicci, and Six Lounge, partially owned by Lance Armstrong.
- ▶ Seventeen Garza High School students “graduated” July 21 from the joint AISD/APD **CSI: Garza forensic science program**. The six-week program offers students class instruction on a host of forensic science topics – including crime-scene investigation, crime-scene photography, evidence col-

continued on p.17

Gentlemen’s Disagreement

Back to the future at City Hall

BY MICHAEL KING

Fledgling Member Mike Martinez caused a flutter in the City Council dovecote last week by raising a perennial, thorny local issue: single-member council districts. More precisely, Martinez told *In Fact Daily* that he plans to propose a community task force to consider council government in general, and specifically changes in the structure of representation to some form of “hybrid” system. “What I envision is both at-large and geographic districts,” he told *IFD*. “I don’t want to call it single-member districts. There’s more to it than that.”

Initially, Martinez’s colleagues reacted as though someone had suggested cleaning out their garages – it may well need doing, but nobody is volunteering for the job. Betty Dunkerley said that while she doesn’t oppose a discussion, she no longer supports single-member districts. Fellow freshman Sheryl Cole said that while she isn’t opposed to considering the question, her primary concern is protecting representation for African-American residents, now so dispersed throughout the city that it’s hard to draw a majority African-American district.

The strongest negative reaction came from Brewster McCracken, who said most council members oppose a change because “single-member districts would produce ward politics. ... Such a system would cause the voters of Austin to be disenfranchised in six of seven seats.” Even Martinez acknowledged that Austin voters have rejected single-member or hybrid systems several times, most recently in 2002, when a charter amendment proposing a system of eight single-member districts and four at-large members (including the mayor) was soundly defeated. (Another charter amendment election could not be held before 2008.)

Words to Buzz

Martinez remains undaunted, saying he has continued to talk with his colleagues about his proposal and expects to put it on the council agenda “in the near future.” “The rhetoric is,” he said, “‘we voted on it six times; it was voted down six times.’ But did you do any work, did you actively put something down that people could sink their teeth into?” He called the 2002 defeat misleading because members who nominally supported the proposition didn’t like proposed district maps and helped defeat the measure by indifference. “I think we can and will convene a task force,” he continued, “to start to dig into this and see if there is something that can improve our government and improve the opportunities for diversity. If it doesn’t improve our government and the opportunities for diversity, and if it harms African-Americans, then it’s not something I’m going to be supporting. But I believe we can improve those opportunities, and enhance

continued on p.16

those opportunities. We’ve proven that minorities can be elected citywide. So you’d also think if you’ve drawn some geographical boundaries, you’d improve your chances for diversity there.” He added that by “diversity” he means not just in ethnicity but diversity in neighborhoods, value systems, issues, and points of view.

Martinez described worries over the potential for “ward politics” as exaggerated or misdirected. “‘Ward politics’ is a buzz word,” he said. “It’s the kill word that people use when they don’t support a district system. This is a hybrid system [I’m suggesting]. Ward politics exists where there are only wards. ... There is nothing more parochial than committing to something as a candidate and then retracting it as an elected official.”

“This ‘gentlemen’s agreement’ is an archaic system, everyone agrees, but nobody wants to work on how to get beyond that. We need to get beyond the Seventies. I’ll settle for 1995.”

– Mike Martinez

What ‘Gentlemen’?

It’s not surprising that Martinez should be the member raising the issue, since Hispanics have been most vocal in their complaints that the Seventies-era “gentlemen’s agreement” of two minority seats – one Hispanic, one African-American – on the seven-member council has long outgrown its usefulness, especially with the Austin Hispanic population now estimated at 35-40%. “This ‘gentlemen’s agreement’ is an archaic system, everyone agrees, but nobody wants to work on how to get beyond that. We need to get beyond the Seventies,” Martinez said. “I’ll settle for 1995.” He added that he’d heard similar complaints throughout the city on the campaign trail, from all sorts of voters.

While reiterating her caution about protecting African-American representation, Cole said she’s not opposed to appointing a task force and that “ward politics” is not an inevitable result of a district system. “I don’t believe the [district-based] county commissioners don’t work together or are not respectful of each other or that they don’t work for the good of the whole county. It just doesn’t have to be that way.”

Loose Talk

Asked to elaborate his opposition, McCracken was slightly less adamant but reiterated, “I’m not interested in looking at it again.” He said that in light of Austin’s growth, it might be worthwhile to expand the council to nine members, but otherwise he prefers a system in which “the council’s dynamic is now that we all consider the bigger picture, and in part we do that because we answer to all the voters everywhere.” He acknowledged that the expanding Hispanic population “is by far the most compelling reason that we need to do something different than we’re doing at the moment.” But “just brainstorming,” McCracken suggested that either expanding agreed Hispanic representation to at least two seats, or else installing a “place” system under which members would live in designated geographical districts but still run citywide would be preferable to single-member districts. “The discussion is certainly appropriate,” McCracken said.

Martinez says the discussion, now joined, will certainly continue. “I do not want to sugarcoat this issue; I am not trying to fill some campaign promise with smoke and mirrors. I believe we need a different form of government. Now, what that looks like and what that means, I don’t have all those answers. That’s for the community to decide.”

And he’s looking for citizens willing to work on the question. “This isn’t a two-month process. It’s going to take some time and a lot of work. If you care about your municipal government, I want to hear from you.” ■

BESIDE THE POINT

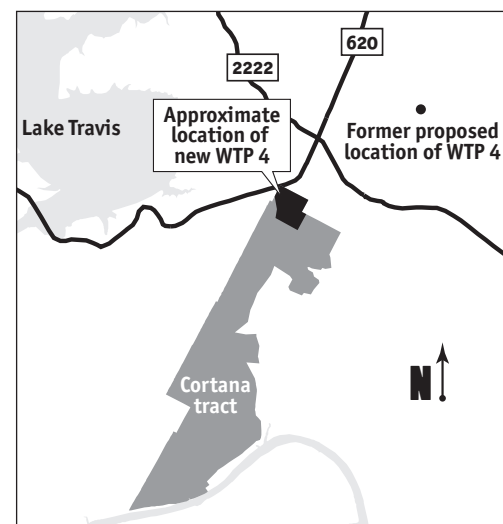
Pick Your Conspiracy Week!

Austin’s clapboard jungle of boards and commissions deals with everything from solid waste to day labor to historic zoning – the city spawns innumerable stakeholders’ groups, not to mention their flowering subcommittee fauna. And in their finer hours, their results can cut revealingly through the council’s conflict-free exterior. This is especially true of their Pyrrhic victories – when heartfelt recommendations to council fall on deaf official’s ears.

Rightly or wrongly, the **Environmental Board** is seen as possessing such a history, and last week the board urged council to take a 30-day breather in its sprint to build **Water Treatment Plant 4**. Today, July 27, council considers two relevant items: an amendment to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service permits letting the city move the proposed plant to the Cortana tract southwest of the original proposed site at Lake Travis, in northwest Austin (Item 8); and delivering the first \$10 million of an expected \$40 to 50 million to Carollo Engineers for plant assessment, engineering, and construction (Item 38). No one doubts Austin’s expanding water needs, but the plant-selection process has settled cloudily in board members’ cups. “I’ve been on the environmental board for six years,” says Phil Moncada. “I have seniority. And I was seriously considering withdrawing from the board because of the lack of information.”

A lack of information has pervaded the project, says Moncada. Now the move from the original site to Cortana has happened so fast as to obscure any environmental concerns. Crushed under the wheels may be the black-capped vireo; at its meeting last week, the board heard from biologists saying the tract is one of the endangered bird’s last remaining habitats. Sympathetic is Council Member Mike Martinez, who complained of being abruptly saddled with the WTP 4 vote at his first meeting. He thinks the city should determine the precise level of threat at Cortana: “If we’re going to damage [the vireo] habitat, can it be mitigated, and how?”

Staff argues that WTP 4’s uphill location will expend less pumping energy, but Moncada speculates a bait-and-switch, even suggesting that the abandoned original plan – the radioactive proposal of a new plant at Guerrero Park – was intentionally so ham-handed as to build alternative momentum for WTP 4. While it’s a stretch to presume a private conspiracy involving everybody from Mayor Wynn down to the Austin Water Utility’s Power Point jockeys, it’s imaginable that Green



The city wants to move the proposed Water Treatment Plant 4 to the Cortana tract, southwest of the original site at Lake Travis, in northwest Austin.

might have died due to willing negligence. (While we’re on the subject, does the AWU possess anything resembling a strategic vision, or will all its future decisions be steered by the seat of Council’s pants?) Whatever the actual backstory, it’s the duty of commissions and boards to review and stretch the parameters of debate – especially with groupthink so firmly grounded on the dais.

Speaking of conspiracies, council is also considering a camera darkly: Martinez, Jennifer Kim, and Lee Leffingwell want to ask the city manager to mull installation of **traffic cameras** for remote ticketing of red-light runners (Item 93). Martinez says cameras might improve safety, but when reached regarding the proposal, sounded more curious than determined. On privacy issues, he did argue the “opposition is misguided when they say [the proposal’s] coming from Big Brother.”

Not so, says the ACLU’s Debbie Russell. Aside from their uncertain constitutionality, due to differing civil (ticket in the mail) vs. criminal (getting pulled over) enforcement, she says the cameras have actually increased rear-end collisions elsewhere, as drivers spot the cameras and slam on the brakes. “People see this as a cash cow, and not really there to improve public safety,” she says. And she worries about a slippery slope to biometric (i.e., facial recognition) cameras.

“People will start getting tickets, saying, ‘That wasn’t me driving,’” says Russell. (In fact, under the civil statute, the owner is ticketed, not the driver.) “They’ll say, ‘We need better cameras.’”

Hmm. Do we really want to light a bigger fire under Alex Jones?

– Wells Dunbar



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lection, bloodstain-pattern and fingerprint identification, and DNA analysis. The program is an effort to attract students to forensic science careers and has developed a partnership with Huston-Tillotson University that will offer Garza CSI grads additional education and training. — J.S.

The **Housing Authority of Travis County** was recognized with four awards by the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials at the group's recent annual conference in Denver. Two of the awards are administration-related, largely recognizing the authority's innovation in affordable housing planning, while the other two recognize specific housing efforts: the authority's work in finding affordable housing for Hurricane Katrina evacuees, and a program the authority runs with the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, in which mentally disabled clients are placed in housing authority duplexes. — Cheryl Smith

BEYOND CITY LIMITS

The Republican Party has stepped up efforts to have its onetime hero, former U.S. Rep. **Tom DeLay**, removed from the November ballot. Last week, Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott entered the fray, filing a brief with the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals, arguing that U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks erred when he determined that the state Republican Party doesn't have authority to declare DeLay ineligible for the ballot, after the congressman resigned his seat in June and officially transferred his residency to Virginia. DeLay still maintains a home in Sugar Land. Attorneys for the state Democratic Party argue that DeLay's actions were simply a ploy to let the state GOP hand-pick a replacement nominee to run for the congressional seat against Democrat Nick Lampson of Houston. The Harris Co. Republican Party is also circulating a petition urging the federal appeals court to reverse Sparks' ruling. In other DeLay developments, the ex-congressman will pay a \$115,000 fine for campaign-finance violations and shutter his once-powerful fundraising arm — Americans for a Republican Majority — as part of an agreement struck with the Federal Election Commission. The FEC's investigation into ARMPAC stemmed from a complaint filed by the watchdog group Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington. — Amy Smith

Despite all the public hand-wringing, Texas colleges and universities are failing to meet the state's goal of substantially increasing the enrollment of Latino students. A report by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shows the number of **Latino students in higher education** grew by just more than 11,000 from 2004 to 2005 — the smallest increase in five years. The THECB had set a target to enroll 340,000 Latino students by 2005, as part of its "Closing The Gaps" initiative, but Texas schools fell short by more than 20,000. Some local institutions are working to do their part. Austin Community College is aggressively targeting first-generation college students as part of its "College Connection" program in local high schools.

— Michael May

Democrat **Chris Bell** last week rolled out a four-part environmental platform that would, among other things, dismantle some Austin-bashing state laws that give developers the edge in challenging local water-quality and land-use regulations. The enviro plank would also elevate the role of local community leaders in decisions ranging from urban sprawl to inner-city neighborhood planning. If the proposals sound like they were made in Austin, a good many of them were, in fact, crafted with assistance from local environmental advocates, as well as Austin-based leaders of several state organizations. But the hot-button issue of late concerns Gov. **Rick Perry**'s decision to put a rush on the permitting process of proposed coal-fired power plants, 16 of which would land in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, with TXU leading the charge on 11 of them. Bell chided Perry's pollution record during a series of campaign stops last week as he unveiled his "Healthy Texas Environmental Tour," and called on the governor to end his policy of fast-tracking the state permitting of coal-fired plants, which pollute the air and wreak havoc on the health of children, older adults, and others with unstable immune systems. — A.S.

Independent gubernatorial candidate **Carole Keeton Strayhorn** echoed many of Bell's clean-air comments this week in a far-reaching environmental statement released Monday, vowing if elected to reverse Gov. Perry's executive order fast-tracking the permitting of new coal-burning power plants, and promising to "change the state's permitting process in order to fight air pollution," and "look to clean-burning natural gas, wind energy, other renewables and energy conservation" to meet the state's electricity needs. Strayhorn also came out in favor of drastically cleaner coal gasification, a technology none of the proposed Texas plants currently employ. Democratic opponent Chris Bell's campaign was quick to point out the \$43,000 in contributions Strayhorn received from coal-burning utilities from 2000-2005. Tom "Smitty" Smith of Public Citizen, a point-man in the fight against the coal plants, said Strayhorn's "on the right track," commending her for being the first candidate to mention global-warming-inducing CO₂, noting that while industry contributions are always suspicious, Strayhorn's coal-reform comments all but guarantee such political giving will stop, while demonstrating that she'll take the issue seriously. Strayhorn's campaign couldn't be reached at press time.

— Daniel Mottola

Third Court of Appeals candidate **Mina Brees** is recovering from a heart attack suffered July 23 at her South Austin home. Brees, a Democrat, will undergo corrective surgery next week, and doctors expect her to make a full

recovery to continue her run for office, according to the campaign. She is challenging incumbent Republican David Puryear. Brees, 56, reportedly suffered chest pains while doing yard work in 100-degree heat. — A.S.

Endorsing the establishment of a U.S. cabinet-level **Department of Peace and Non-Violence**, the American Ethical Union — a nationwide organization dating back to 1876, whose founding principle is that the supreme aim of human life is to create a more humane society — announced this and other resolutions passed at its 2006 national assembly. The Department of Peace concept was conceived by U.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich in his 2004 presidential campaign and took the form of HR 3760, presented to Congress in 2005. The AEU also passed a resolution opposing the Iraq war and called on the U.S. government to treat enemy combatants in accord with the Geneva Convention, renounce intentions of establishing permanent bases in Iraq, quickly draw down and remove forces, relinquish all Iraqi natural resources and public goods to the country's duly elected government, and encourage multinational agencies to manage reconstruction. — D.M.

According to information obtained last week by *The Salt Lake Tribune*, Leroy Jeffs — the elder brother of fugitive polygamist prophet **Warren Jeffs**, head of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints — has been sitting in federal prison in Arizona since April in connection with his refusal to testify before a grand jury investigating the polygamist church. Leroy Jeffs served as the FLDS's lead accountant, and as such has the skinny on details of life inside the secretive church — including info on its vast property holdings, its titing scheme, and detailed records of the sect's plural marriages, reports the *Tribune*. Last year Warren Jeffs — who has been on the lam for nearly a year, dodging state and federal charges for arranging marriages between married men and teen girls — reportedly banished big bro Leroy to Oklahoma to "repent" and then reassigned Leroy's wife and children to other men in the church, the daily reports. Leroy was served a subpoena at home in Oklahoma earlier this year but has refused to testify — as have four others; all five remain in federal custody on contempt charges. — J.S.

HAPPENINGS

The film **"Who Killed the Electric Car?"** — which, in murder-mysterylike fashion, investigates why General Motors' popular, emission-free electric car has disappeared — opens this Friday in Austin at the Arbor Cinema at Great Hills. The story goes like this: Inspired by a 1990 GM announcement of an electric vehicle prototype, the state of California's Air Resources Board created the Zero Emissions Mandate, requiring 2% of vehicles sold statewide to be emissions free by 1998 and 10% by 2003, in response to the state's auto exhaust-driven pollution crisis. The GM EV1 was launched in 1996 and was hugely popular, requiring no gas or oil changes and infrequent maintenance, while costing the equivalent of three cents per gallon to operate. Thanks to bogus grassroots PR attacks and lawsuits from automakers and oil companies throughout the 1990s, the Zero Emissions Mandate was marginalized. GM took back its fleet of leased EV1s and by 2006, most of them had been crushed in the Arizona desert. For more info, see www.whokilledtheelectriccarmovie.com. The Austin Area Electric Automobile Association will have several Electric Cars in the Arbor parking lot on Friday from 5-10pm, and Saturday from 11am-10pm. www.austinev.org. — D.M.

Though the anti-war movement has never truly waned here in Austin, this month is seeing a resurgence of action. As part of **Troops Home Fast**, the hunger-strike initiative that brought Danny Glover, Cindy Sheehan, Alice Walker, and a bunch of hungry others to the White House lawn earlier this month, the Austin chapter of **CodePink** will join in a rolling, two-month fast ending on or around International Peace Day, Sept. 21. Check out who's taking part each Friday, from 4-6pm, when the fasters gather to sit vigil at the south entrance of the Capitol. See www.troopshomefast.org for more info.

Thousands of Austinites took to the streets this spring to protest draconian immigration measures passed by the U.S. House. The legislation is still being debated in Washington, but there's more to be done right here in Austin. The **Austin Immigrants Rights Coalition** is holding a public forum for concerned citizens and worried immigrants on Thursday, July 27 at 7pm at Cristo Rey Catholic Church, 2201 E. Second.

The **mandatory bike helmet ordinance** rages on at 7pm Tuesday, Aug. 1, in a debate at the Alamo Draffthouse South, 1120 S. Lamar. Squaring off against the ordinance will be Patrick Goetz, a member of the city's Transportation Commission, co-founder of the League of Bicycling Voters, and a leader in the fight to roll back the original short-lived ordinance in the mid-1990s. Speaking in favor of the ordinance is Bruce Todd, the former Austin mayor (1991-97), who spearheaded passage of the original ordinance and last year gained firsthand insight into the issue by falling off his bike and severely busting up his head, which required a lengthy hospital stay. Admission is \$8 at the door or in advance at www.dionysium.com.

The Travis Co. Sheriff's Office, in partnership with Texans in Motion, hosts a **child safety seat inspection** Wednesday, Aug. 2. When properly installed, child safety seats significantly reduce the likelihood that an infant or young child will die in a car wreck, yet 80% of car seats are improperly installed — and on average, TCSO reports, parents make three installation mistakes. The safety inspection is free but requires an appointment; call 854-4194.

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Graduation at Escuelita: How much longer?

If there is a cloud of foreboding over the 200 block of Congress Avenue, you couldn't tell it from the happy and noisy festivities Friday evening, behind the **Copa Bar & Grill**. A couple of days before, the formal announcement had finally come that the **Finley Co.**, owner of most of this block, had indeed signed a long-term lease to **White Lodging Services Corp.**, which plans to build a **multistory hotel complex** on the site (see "My Migas, My City," July 21).

Nevertheless, a couple hundred parents and relatives crammed the Copa's patio to celebrate the "graduation" of all the preschoolers at **Escuelita del Alma Learning Center**, which on most days keeps school next door. One class after another of the multicultural, Spanish-immersion day-care center marked the august occasion by singing and dancing in honor of *tortugas* (turtles), *abejorros* (bumblebees), and several other miscellaneous fauna. The youngest *niños* jumped up and down with abandon, the eldest (students range from infants to pre-K) flourished a hip-swinging assurance; very few froze at the sudden appearance of an actual adult audience outside the curtain. Only one poor, overwhelmed bumblebee howled at the prospect of all those suddenly unfamiliar faces beyond the stage.

"This kind of diversity is Austin's future," said **Jim Walker**, who, with his wife Scheleen, was among the applauding parents braving the evening heat to watch their youngsters perform. (Four-year-old **Jimmy Boone Walker** was a most graceful tortuga in green and white.) The Walkers have helped organize an Escuelita parents group in hopes of finding some accommodation with the planned hotel



COURTNEY CHAVANELL

development. "No one is against development," Walker said. "The larger question is how can we work with that development, the result of our own success, to preserve what has sustained Austin? We need to engage in that bigger conversation."

Last Wednesday, the *Statesman* published a rendering showing three **Marriott Corp.** hotels proposed to fill the block where Escuelita, **Las Manitas Avenue Cafe**, and **Tesoros Trading Co.** now stand (along with a couple of other buildings, including Copa, not directly subject to the project). At least in the proposed version, it is not apparent what might happen to the existing small businesses, although White Lodging President and COO **Deno Yiankes** told the daily, "As hotel owners, we will directly benefit by successfully working with these longstanding and important institutions of downtown Austin as they are a significant part of Austin's unique flair that keeps so many visitors and conventioners coming back year after year." The company's local representative is Armbrust & Brown

attorney **Richard Suttle**, who did not return calls requesting comment but has invited the existing business owners to meet with him to discuss how they might be accommodated in the new development. **Dina Flores**, director of Escuelita del Alma, said she hopes to meet with Suttle soon.

White Lodgings vice-president for communications **Judy Bronowski** described the project as "in the early stages," and with three hotels (1,000 rooms in all) designed by **HOK Architects**, it will be among the largest projects the company has undertaken. Ground-breaking is planned for next year, with a scheduled hotel opening for summer 2009. She reiterated that the company hopes to "get all the parties together and figure out what is best for everybody involved," emphasizing that White has "a pretty big presence" in Austin and intends to be a good corporate citizen. (The company's Web site lists 14 Austin hotel properties, managed for Marriott-related chains.) Because of the company's broad experience here, Bronowski said, "We



White Lodging's concept for the Las Manitas/Escuelita block.

understand the unique place and environment [of Austin], and we want to do whatever we can to help maintain that."

For their part, Walker said the business owners and the parents group hope that a "win-win" can be worked out with the development project, promoting economic progress for Downtown while preserving the unique character of the city's multicultural threads. He emphasized the special nature of Las Manitas and Escuelita – "there are only two or three day-cares in the city that offer Spanish immersion, and that's increasingly a necessary skill" – not to mention the opportunity for children of all racial and economic groups to attend school together. For Walker, the situation raises a larger question about the city's priorities and future.

"We've got to get more serious as a community about that question," Walker said. "It's not even primarily a city-politics or City Council question. It's a question of what kind of community do we want to have. ... It's for all of us. We can't just throw up our hands and say, 'Well, it's the market doing this,' and let irreplaceable cultural institutions disappear. Now it's Las Manitas; what happens next if it's the Hoffbrau or Katz's? If the city can't do it [preserve them], then the community should."

— Michael King

MEDIA WATCH Stratton Says Farewell

BY KEVIN BRASS

Mocking the dreams of young girls with fine enunciation everywhere, **Fox-7** co-anchor **Linda Stratton** is voluntarily leaving her seat at the anchor desk and quitting the glamorous world of local TV news. While conspiracy theorists may speculate that Stratton is being nudged out the door, the latest casualty in Austin's escalating news-reader catfight, she insists the decision to leave KTBC was completely her own. "I decided it was time for me to make a career change," said Stratton, who will remain on the air until her contract expires at the end of August.

Stratton and perky **Mike Warren** were brought in to lead the station's news effort only two years ago. They replaced the duo of Carrie Schumacher and Austin TV news elder statesman Dick Ellis, representing a major new initiative from the station's news department. With Stratton playing the role of stern news maiden to Warren's breathless, gee-whiz guy next door, the results have been, as they say, mixed. The station usually trails ABC affiliate KVUE and NBC's KXAN in most head-to-head time periods.

Stratton was offered a new contract but turned it down. "I was surprised," said news director **Pam Vaught**. "We wanted



Linda Stratton

her to stay." Stratton says the move primarily represents a "lifestyle" change, a chance to get away from the demanding and unpredictable dog-eat-dog world of TV news. In 11 years as an anchor/reporter, she already lists stops in Midland, San Angelo, Spokane, and Las Vegas on her résumé. She plans to return to Las Vegas where she has family and friends to pursue a career in, perhaps – gasp! – public relations, the lifestyle choice of many former TV news hounds. "I'm looking forward to doing something less public and something with more normal hours," Stratton said.

Her decision to leave comes at time of turmoil and anguish in local TV news. In recent weeks, two of the four network affiliates fired their general managers, and veteran snappy dresser **Ron Oliveira** jumped from **KVUE** to **KEYE**, signaling an escalation in the throw-down competition among the furrowed-brow-news-reader set. With Stratton's departure, TV news gossipmongers will now turn their attention to the status of Warren, who manages to annoy a large swath of serious news viewers, except those who think he's "dreamy." Warren's contract was also up in a few weeks, but he has inked a new deal, Vaught said. "He'll be staying with us," she said.

No More Geography?

Time Warner Cable subscribers continue to find a black hole on Channel 51, the prime channel slot most recently filled by the **National Geographic Channel**. Several weeks ago the cable system dumped the station from its standard channel lineup (although it's still available on the more expensive digital tier), infuriating fans of the network's beloved nature films and archeological peep shows. Systems in San

Diego and Syracuse have made similar moves, apparently representing another miniskirmish in the ongoing war between cable systems and programmers over broadcasting fees.

Local Time Warner spokesman **Roger Heaney** says the system, which raised prices last year, didn't want to increase prices to subscribers for National Geographic, suggesting that National Geographic was raising its fees. "Absolutely not," said National Geographic spokesman **Russell Howard**. In a written statement, he said the channel, which is two-thirds owned by **Fox Cable**, "strenuously objected" to the move. "For the record, we have not increased our costs to Time Warner," he said.

When told of Howard's statements, Heaney refused to comment. "We don't talk about business negotiations," he said. The local cable system's programming deals are negotiated at a national level, where Fox Cable is trying to hash out fees for a wide variety of channels. Heaney characterized the programming negotiations as "ongoing," which might explain why TWC is taking its time finding new programming for Channel 51.

Not to Mention Hurricanes ...

KVUE-TV political reporter **Lee McGuire** is leaving to take a reporting job with **KHOU-TV**, the CBS affiliate in Houston. KHOU and KVUE are both owned by **Belo Corp.**, so there's a good chance he'll still be seen on the air in Austin in the future. In an e-mail blast to friends and colleagues, the native New Englander says he's decided to stay in Texas, "despite the fact that I am now allergic to just about everything, am deathly afraid of fire ants, and look terrible in boots."

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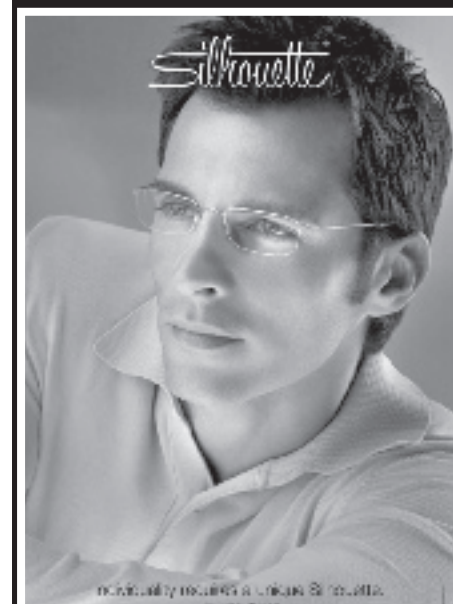


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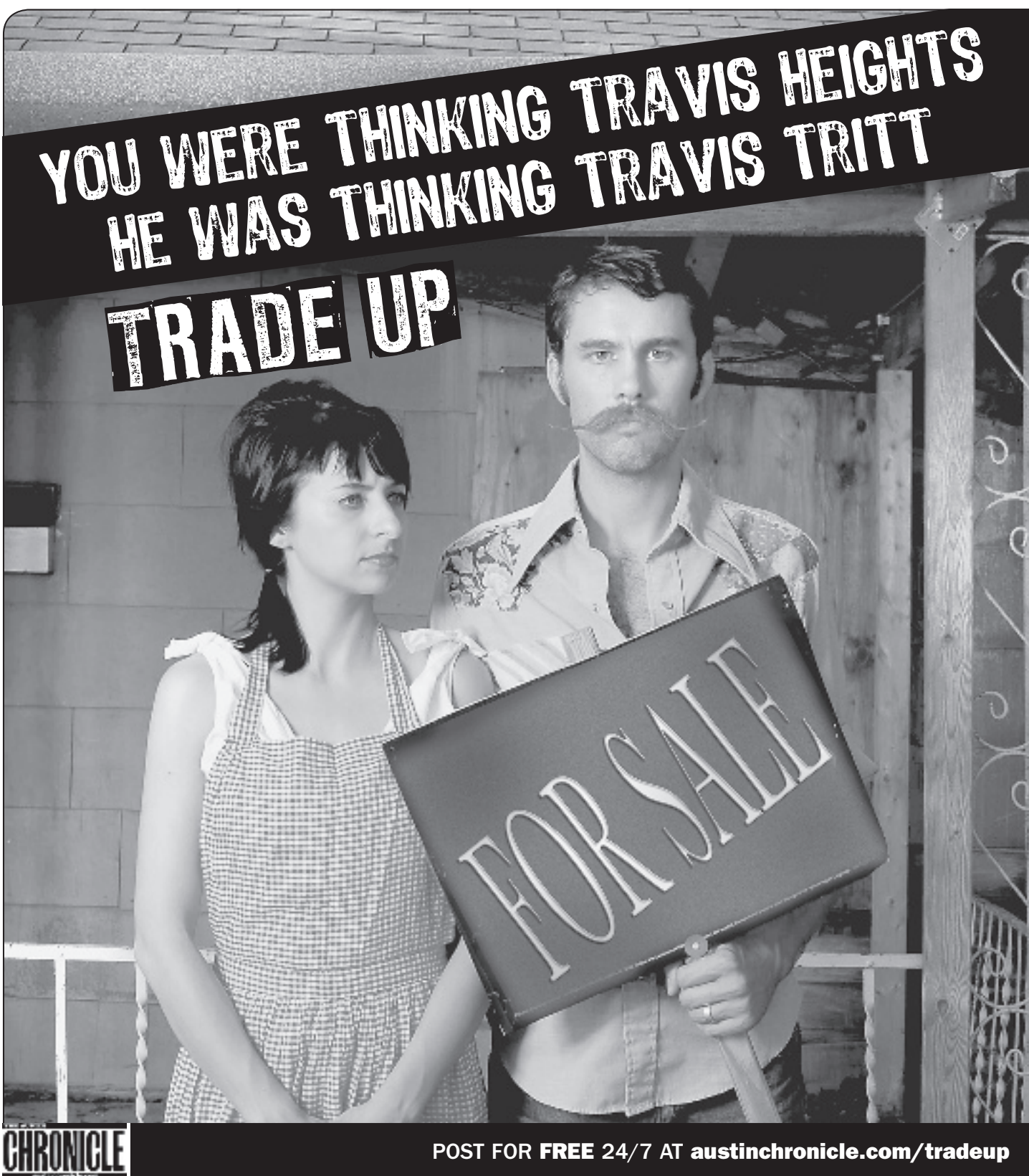
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City v. La Bare: Think about the joggers!

It may seem like a no-brainer – **La Bare** is a club where guys do sexy dances in their underwear. Wouldn't anyone call it "adult-oriented"? City officials say they would – and as such, the Riverside club is just a hair too close (under existing ordinances) to both the **Town Lake hike-and-bike trail** and the **Texas School for the Deaf**. **Kevin Cox**, the appropriately named owner of Austin's only ladies club, disagrees. Yes, the zoning code forbids "Adult-Oriented Businesses" from operating within 1,000 feet of a school or public park; but no, he says, La Bare is not an AOB. And while he faces class C misdemeanor charges for the zoning violations, the city faces an injunction plea from La Bare to knock it off. La Bare's injunction goes to court Aug. 7; Cox's court date hasn't been set yet.

According to La Bare attorney **Jeff Kelly**, the city had its chance to classify the club as an AOB last fall, when Cox began the **Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission** alcohol permit process. "If they would've done that at that time, we wouldn't have been damaged," says Kelly, "because we would've automatically been kicked to a TABC administrative hearing."

Instead, the club's permit application, despite acquiring zoning and APD approval in October, has been in a "holding pattern" for nine months. "Our hand was forced," says Kelly. "We had to file."

Without a liquor license, La Bare has operated on a BYOB basis since its Dec. 30 grand opening. The bartenders serve the occasional soda or setup while the waiters, in their white tux blouses and black bow ties, wander among the tables like eager busboys.

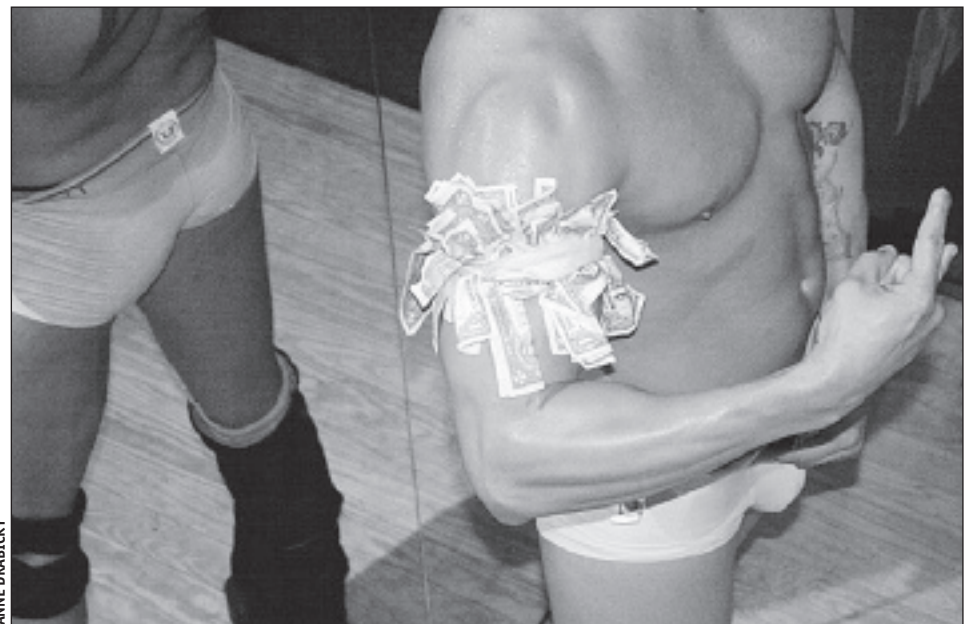
Meanwhile, an apologetic sign at the door announces a "temporary" \$20 cover. "We're just trying to keep the lights and the phone on," says Cox.

That was easier at the La Bare franchise in Dallas, where Cox worked for 25 years. It's classified as a bar – just like Austin's club was during the permitting process, and just like **Oilcan Harry's** or **Coyote Ugly**, where wet underwear contests and body shots could be considered more salacious than what hap-

A lot of the performance at La Bare is pure Justin Timberlake, and even the groin thrusts don't surpass standards established by Elvis or Michael Jackson.

pens at La Bare, Cox argues. The comparison isn't lost on the club's clientele. "I can get more bump and grind at a bar than I can here," says **Teri Kilgore**, a regular at the club, who prefers La Bare to other bars "because here guys don't grab you."

The question remains whether a judge will determine that La Bare is an AOB. On May 25, APD filed a formal protest with TABC against the club's application, alleging that during a January undercover visit, officers wit-



ANNE DRABICKY

nessed adult-oriented behavior. According to city ordinance, an AOB primarily offers live entertainment emphasizing aroused human genitals, acts of masturbation or intercourse, or erotic touching of the human genitals, pubic region, buttock, or breast (of the female variety). A business can also be classified as adult-oriented if the genitals, pubic regions, buttocks, or female breasts found within it are "less than completely and opaquely covered."

You'd think a quick review of La Bare's dancers would help clear up the debate. La Bare is not the male-dancing equivalent of a female strip club – where you're unlikely to see a dancer wearing knee pads and showing

off her popping-and-locking skills, as featured La Bare dancer Kal and his hard-bodied colleagues did last Saturday night. Perhaps surprisingly to those hapless innocents jogging along Town Lake, a lot of the performance at La Bare is pure Justin Timberlake, and even the groin thrusts don't surpass standards established by Elvis or Michael Jackson.

It's unclear, however, whether the sexual innuendo built into the La Bare scene – a dancer dressed as a cop accused a bachelorette of violating a "penile code" during a performance last Saturday, for instance – really counts as mimicking a sexual act. Also, the officers who visited the club say they saw lap dances, which could be construed as violating the city ordinance. Kelly says he has exonerating video footage from the night in question, as well as corroborating affidavits from women who were there, many of them for a birthday party. Parties make up a large part of La Bare's business – at least half of last Saturday's crowd was there to celebrate birthdays and weddings, and they'd decorated their tables with balloons and streamers.

"They keep apologizing that it's BYOB," said **Angie Hagar**, who was celebrating her friend's bachelorette party. "But we like that. I just don't like that you can't touch the dancers." Regardless, she said, "We definitely need a club with men dancing in Austin."

– Nora Ankurm

Finley Murder Update

A Travis Co. grand jury indicted **Karen Bunton** and **William "Tony" Holmes** on July 19 for capital murder in the death of Bunton's 22-year-old niece **Latoya Finley**. Travis Co. Sheriff's investigators had charged the pair with murder, but the grand jury upped the ante based on a finding that the couple had also robbed Finley, making her death a capital offense and making Bunton and Holmes eligible for a death sentence, or life in prison. (Whether the state will seek the death penalty is up to District Attorney **Ronnie Earle**.) According to the grand jurors, Bunton and Holmes robbed Finley (police said Bunton tried to pawn several items), then stabbed and beat her before smothering her to death.

Finley's mother Vickie reported her daughter missing on March 5; Finley left Austin on a weeklong trip to **Los Angeles**, where she hoped to make music industry contacts, but never returned. Investigators quickly turned to Bunton to help locate Finley – Bunton was supposed to help Finley get packed and started off on her trip, Vickie reported. But several weeks into their investigation, as police continued to question Bunton, she cut off all contact with deputies and disappeared. In April, **Abilene** police caught up with the pair driving Latoya's car and, after a short chase, pulled them over; in the trunk, investigators found human remains later identified as Latoya. (For more on the story, see "Finley Murder Mystery Unravels," April 28.)

– Jordan Smith



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Austin Reaches Biodiesel Big Leagues

Thanks to a new partnership between local biodiesel distributor **Austin Biofuels** and local fuel retailer **Triple S Petroleum**, Austin now has more **B20 biodiesel pumps** than any other U.S. city. Austin Biofuels struck a deal last July with Triple S Petroleum to make the blend of 20% biodiesel and 80% petroleum diesel – usable in any diesel vehicle with modification – that has been available at all of Triple S' 19 **Signature Austin convenience store gas stations** since May.

Among the notables on hand for an official announcement about the agreement, made at the Signature Austin station on I-35 and Slaughter last Friday, were Texas Agriculture Commissioner **Susan Combs** and State Rep. **Mark Strama**, along with ABF founder **Jeff Plowman**. In the background were a Mercedes-Benz sedan and a huge box truck fueled up with B20, the price of which is generally close to regular diesel's. Before the event, Plowman said ABF still intends to build a **biodiesel production plant** in Austin, which would help Austin retain some of the 99% of fuel dollars currently leaving the community. He also said, however, that he has shifted ABF's focus toward **biodiesel distribution and marketing**, as plants are in the works all over the

Texas stamp, since ABF's biodiesel is made in Texas. Combs also said Texas biofuel producers (including biodiesel and ethanol) are eligible for a state incentive that will net them 16.8 cents per gallon, up to 18 million gallons over 10 years.

Rep. Strama emphasized his desire to see Texas "remain on top of the global energy industry," noting that California has plans to tax oil and gas companies doing business there, many of which are Texas-based, in order to subsidize its developing renewable fuel industry. He favors similar moves here and said that "if we're smart, we won't fight; we'll lead the movement to new fuel technology." Asked why transportation fuels weren't included in the Legislature's special session boosts to the state's renewable energy goals last year, Strama said "there was no market to justify the mandate."

But that seems to be changing. ABF is now selling 1 million gallons of biodiesel a year, up from 30,000 gallons last year and 3,000 the year before. (In addition to its Signature Austin B20 pumps, Austin Biofuels operates two local 99% or 100% biodiesel pumps.) The company serves a variety of fleet customers too, including Real Ale Brewing, Texas School



PAUL GALLAND

Biodiesel has been promoted by Willie Nelson, who fuels his tour bus with his own brand, BioWillie.

state, yet there's still a relatively small number of gas stations with biodiesel pumps.

"The industry is changing, and we knew we had to get out in front with alternative fuels," said Triple S President **Ford Smith** of the partnership with Austin Biofuels. Smith also said his retail and fleet biodiesel sales have both been very successful and that commercial customers tell him "their trucks run better and get better mileage." Biodiesel has higher ignition quality and thus better lubricity than petroleum diesel, while decreasing nearly all regulated polluting emissions, depending on its blend ratio.

To further aid ABF marketing efforts, Combs announced at Friday's event that the company's pumps would be tagged with the **"Go**

for the Deaf, Aqua Water Systems, El Sol Landscaping, and Texas A&M. And they recently made a deal to help supply Austin Airport Fast Park's entire fleet with B100.

The National Biodiesel Board's **Jenna Higgins** said Texas is the nation's No. 1 producer of biodiesel, making 96 million gallons a year (tripling last year's production). Biodiesel may have sailed into the perfect storm of high fuel costs due to compounding Middle East bloodshed and Americans' collective realizations of the havoc petroleum emissions are wreaking on our planet. "Americans see domestic energy security as the number one reason to use biofuels, even more than the environment," Higgins said. For more info, see www.austinbiofuels.com and www.biodiesel.org. — Daniel Mottola

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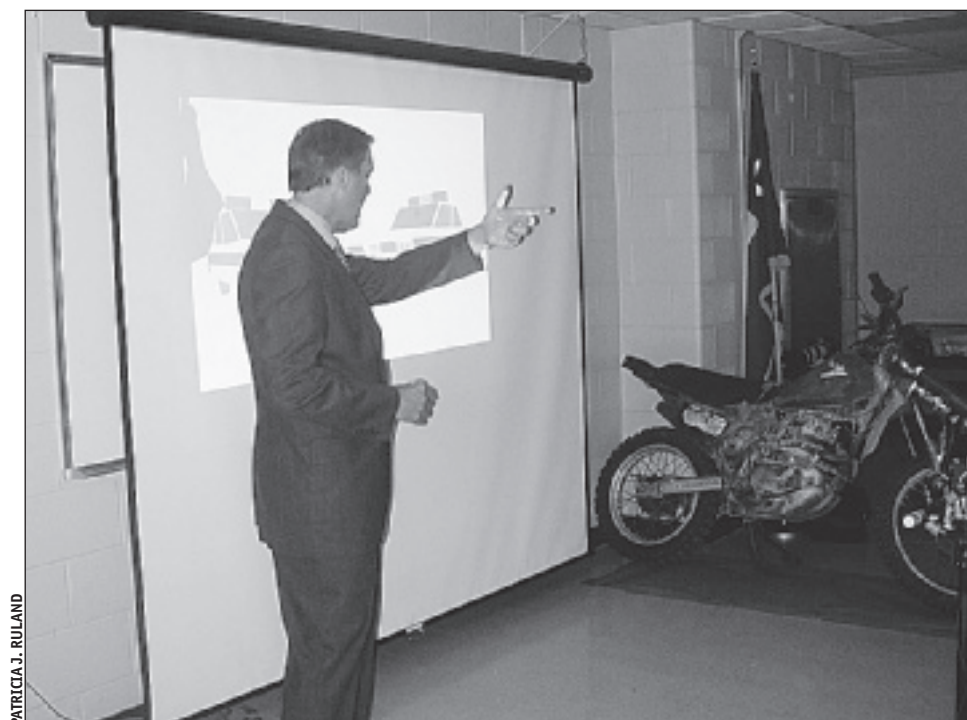
WilCo Shooting: Officers cleared

Joe Vinson Thornton died with a dream, and two bullets in his heart. The 29-year-old's childhood wish to go out in a "blaze of glory" (as he told a friend) was fulfilled on June 16, when he drew a gun on **two Williamson Co. Sheriff's deputies** after a chase in a cornfield east of Georgetown. The deputies fired 12 shots, hitting Thornton five times.

Police found \$2.06 in his pocket and methamphetamine in his system. He was a wanted man, with a protective order filed against him by his own mother. "Something else had taken control of his life," Thornton's father told police. "It's always a loss," said Sheriff **James Wilson**, adding he regretted the deceased had not had contact with mental-health services.

On June 20, a Williamson Co. grand jury no-billed Lt. **James David** and Deputy **Barry Simmons** in the shooting death. The sheriff's office called a press conference that day, to announce the ruling and to release copious details, including, for the first time, the officers' names. The department had been criticized, especially by the *Austin American-Statesman*, for waiting so long; the state attorney general's office is considering a complaint that WCSO filed an incident report late.

The press conference was a multimedia production, including a PowerPoint presentation on use of force, two-camera police foot-



PATRICIA J. RULAND

age of the shooting, and a 2-inch-thick batch of documents. Wilson and District Attorney **John Bradley** stood next to the dirt bike on which Thornton took his last ride. They thanked reporters for their "patience." "This is one of the most well-documented shootings I have ever seen," Bradley said. According to Bradley, the department had withheld information to prevent public censure and protect the

integrity of the investigation. But most departments, including the APD, routinely release the names of officers involved in a shooting.

"I don't get into what other departments do. I work for Williamson County. Our standards are different," said Detective **John Foster**, WCSO public information officer.

The documentation exonerated the officers. "It looked like 'suicide-by-cop,'" said Detective

District Attorney John Bradley stood next to the dirt bike on which Thornton took his last ride. They thanked reporters for their "patience." "This is one of the most well-documented shootings I have ever seen," Bradley said.

Mike Sheffield, president of the Austin Police Association. Sheffield says he sympathizes with WCSO, as the media has "vilified" APD officers involved in shootings. It's arguable, however, that withholding the names did a disservice to officers by suggesting they might be hiding something. If the case is so clear-cut, why the secrecy?

Included in the press packet were numerous commendations, including poignant handwritten letters thanking Simmons for his kindness. Only Simmons will have to bear any unresolved negative publicity — documents said he'd been put on probation in 2002. However, **Derek Howard**, Simmons attorney, questioned the release of that information. "The sheriff immediately overturned that action. WCSO knows this," Howard said. So should the media — a memo to that effect was also in the packet.

— Patricia J. Ruland

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Hardcore Housing Limbo

New Orleans natives **Christine Braud**, her 6-year-old daughter Angel, and her mother Carolyn make up one of about 600 local hurricane-evacuee households slated Tuesday to lose the rental assistance they've been getting for several months now from the **Federal Emergency Management Agency**. Come Aug. 1, 593 families will stop receiving federal emergency housing funds via the city of Austin's Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office. They're among thousands of evacuees nationwide FEMA has deemed ineligible for further rent help.

"I don't know what I'm gonna do," said Braud, who claims she applied in late June for FEMA's **Individual Assistance Program**, which evacuees all over the country have been transitioning to in order to continue receiving rental assistance. As of press time Wednesday, she had not heard from FEMA whether she was eligible or ineligible for individual assistance.

"We need to get a sense of exactly what happens next," NHCD Director **Paul Hilgers** said. "Every family has their own unique story and their own unique needs." Although the **Austin-Travis Co. Health and Human Services Department** will stop assessing evacuees' cases with the end of the emergency assistance program, Hilgers noted that social service providers from various local organizations have been coordinating and collaborating to fill any case-assessment void.

Sam Woollard, associate director of the **Community Action Network**, a public-private collaboration of local organizations focused on community issues, said in an e-mail that area nonprofits "are conducting workshops at

Katrina evacuees Christine and Angel Braud



JANA BIRCHUM

apartments to ensure that evacuees are completing their paperwork correctly – the low literacy level of some evacuees has resulted in them not completing all the paperwork even though they are eligible for on-going assistance." Woollard also noted that local nonprofits are seeing "an increase in the numbers of evacuees who are seeking assistance, many for the first time. ... There is an increasing number of evacuees reporting that they are receiving eviction notices."

Meanwhile, FEMA has been on a PR tear this week, announcing, among other things, that they're working with the **Texas Apartment Association** and landlords "to reach Hurricane Rita and Hurricane Katrina evacuees who have not recertified for continued rental assistance."

Braud said she has enough cash to cover her three-bedroom Southeast Austin apartment's \$805 rent for August, but she's uncertain beyond that. She said her landlord plans on holding a meeting with her complex's remaining evacuee tenants, but that she isn't aware of a date having been set. "You just don't know on a daily basis whether you're going to get that eviction notice," Braud said.

– Cheryl Smith

For more on local hurricane evacuees' housing limbo, see "FEMA's Floodtide," Feb. 24.

More Cantu Controversy

Questions of unfair bias have hit the **Bexar Co. District Attorney's Office** in the wake of the publication of comments by DA investigators conducting an inquiry into the possible wrongful conviction and execution of **Ruben Cantu**, telling a former San Antonio police sergeant how they felt about witnesses who claim Cantu was innocent. Both the *Houston Chronicle* and the *San Antonio Express-News* reported the contents of phone conversations between investigators for Bexar Co. DA **Susan Reed** and **Bill Ewell**, a former SA policeman who investigated the 1984 robbery murder for which Cantu was convicted and put to death. The investigators, **Mike Beers** and **James Moore**, were recorded while talking to Ewell at work at the North East Independent School District where he is police chief; calls there are routinely recorded, the papers reported.

The tapes recorded the investigators calling the witnesses who claim Cantu is innocent "bastards" and "liars," and telling Ewell – also a witness, whose conduct in the original case is part of the investigation – that the Cantu inquiry is "going to go forward with the fact that [the conviction and execution were] justified and everything was correct, and that's the way it is," reports the *Houston Chronicle*. The latest revelations have added more fuel to the argument that Reed's office should not be allowed to conduct such a critical investigation in which not only her office but also Reed herself, as a former district judge who played a role in reviewing Cantu's conviction, played a significant role. So far, the DA's office appears to be dismissing the latest controversy, however: "We're going to do our investigation and let the chips fall where they may," said Reed's First Assistant DA **Cliff Herberg**.

– Jordan Smith

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There Goes the Sun

The city's solar ambitions have long been predicated on an **Austin Energy**-commissioned "**Value of Solar Study**," designed to determine what decentralized, solar energy is worth to Austin. But ever since the study was released publicly in May, it has been criticized by members of Austin's environmental community, who believe the 119-page document under-values solar energy.

"The study's number one flaw is that it doesn't appropriately value conserving fuel like natural gas," said **Andrew Donoho**, a member of the city's **Resource Management Commission**, which advises the city on renewable energy issues as well as energy and water conservation. Since **natural gas cost** was such a major factor in the study's calculations, critics erupted, calling the research's figures specious when the utility refused to make its cost-projection models public. Donoho said that while solar's long-term costs are apparent, the uncertainty of gas' cost and largely imported supply should have added more value to solar. The study's numbers, he said, might as well be based on "voodoo and chicken entrails." **Michael Kuhn**, president of **Imagine Solar Int'l.**, and one of five consultants who worked on the study, said, "Given the inability of the industry to forecast natural gas prices in the past and the required major industry transformation to **liquefied natural gas terminals**," which are causing controversy in coastal communities nationwide, natural gas' value "could be much higher than what was used in the study."

Critics also complain that solar gets no credit for its air quality, climate change, and energy security benefits. And they fear that because sun-made power is undervalued in the study, Austin Energy will be unwilling to install significant amounts of solar-generating capacity anytime soon and will miss the opportunity to lay the groundwork for a local solar industry.

AE was dragging its solar heels long before the study was released, say local renewable energy advocates, who balked last year at the utility's slow progress toward its own goal of **15 megawatts of solar energy by 2007** (100 by 2020) – given that not even one whole MW was online last year. (Now we have 1.15MW online.) The response from AE's Deputy General Manager **Roger Duncan** was that everything depended on the study's results.

Duncan, a respected, veteran environmentalist, has publicly stated his preference to hold off on major solar investment until now, "second-generation" solar technology hits the market. He says so-called "**thin-film photovoltaics**," which are expected to be integrated into roof tiles, windows, and siding, will be "substantially cheaper than what we're putting on roofs now." **John Langdon**, marketing VP for local startup **HelioVolt Corporation**, said current PV production is like carving tablets in stone while his firm's rapid thin film manufacturing method is more like a printing press, reducing costs with faster, more efficient production. He expects the technology to be commercially available by 2008. Today, Duncan puts the cost of conventional solar at \$6 per watt – a cost of \$84 million to meet AE's 2007 goal immediately, a figure he can't justify. As for



SHELL SOLAR INDUSTRIES AND DOE/NREL

While few disagree that the thin-film photovoltaics, or second-generation solar panels, pictured on this Shell Solar/U.S. Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Lab project in Wales will revolutionize the solar energy industry when they go mainstream – some predict by 2008 – with the ability to be integrated directly into building and roofing materials, making solar much more economical, Austin environmentalists argue that simply seeing them on the horizon is no reason to halt investment in today's solar technology. Some local solar experts fear a solar slump will result from the low value a recent Austin Energy-commissioned study placed on solar energy, something they say could stunt the development of a local solar installation and manufacturing industry and could signify the city's failure to put its money where its mouth is as the self-proclaimed "clean energy capital" of the nation.

– D.M.

gas prices, Duncan said that beyond trusted **New York Mercantile Exchange five-year gas futures**, prices are anyone's guess, though he did add that "our natural gas supply is one of my principal concerns for the future of the utility." But he also said the utility plans to move forward, rather than argue over the study's contents, by putting out a request for proposals to meet the utility's solar goal. "I'm optimistic we'll receive bids within the [price] range of the study," Duncan said.

Jane Pulaski, spokeswoman for **Solar Austin**, a nonprofit whose members include the heads of virtually all of Austin's enviro groups, is markedly less optimistic. She said AE "was narrow in its hunt for answers" and was "looking for every reason not to come up with a favorable value for solar. ... Until we change our attitudes about how we consume energy, [solar] will always be too expensive." Donoho, a Solar Austin member,

said solar's high capital investment is too often stressed, while **fossil fuel** generation's high, long-term operating expenses are overlooked, and that climate change-related carbon taxes are an inevitable future cost. He noted that under questioning, the study's main author agreed that by changing environmental, safety, and gas cost assumptions, solar's value could double from the study's 11 cents per kilowatt hour to 21 cents.

And while the study highlighted solar's unrealized capabilities in **disaster recovery** situations (even stating that such applications could increase its value by up to 50%), and in cooperation with the AE-initiated **plug-in hybrid vehicle campaign** – using the experimental vehicles' beefed-up batteries to store solar energy – those factors didn't actually impact solar's value. A second, smaller study, conducted to analyze the "**Economic Development Benefits of Solar Manufacturing & Installation**" in Austin was also commissioned by AE and released in May. It detailed how installing

solar locally would create jobs and encourage local manufacturing. Under questioning at the Resource Management Commission, this study's author told commissioners that economic factors could boost solar's value up to 41 cents per kWh, double its current market price.

In May, the RMC passed a resolution asking that future city energy acquisitions (including power from coal, natural gas, and nukes) be subjected to the "Value of Solar Study's" rigors. Said Donoho, "let's get all the economic justifications on the table to help the citizens of Austin make good economic decisions." And they passed another resolution last Tuesday advising City Council to monetarily weigh the environmental and energy security values the study left out, while considering all types of solar – including concentrating solar plants (which use reflective troughs in the desert to heat gas or liquids that propel turbines) – when AE brings its requests for solar purchase proposals to the dais. And Donoho joined a handful of others in recommending that the city immediately establish a plan to reach the 100 MWs needed for AE's 2020 goal, including yearly solar budget items of about \$17 million.

Excluding more nuclear energy and considering the state's less-than-urgent development of its wind-power infrastructure (not to mention an increasing difficulty in reconciling coal's toxic and heat-trapping emissions with its cheapness), natural gas-generated energy is the cleanest energy option AE has on tap, next to solar. But while the sun will remain, radiating unlimited power, reasonably priced supplies of the natural gas we depend on to meet our electricity and heating needs may not keep shining, given rising demand and the geopolitical mayhem of late. As **Imagine Solar's Kuhn** put it, "Does the city of Austin have the foresight to prepare for the future?" – **Daniel Mottola**

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Psst! Wanna buy some (slightly ruined) eight-liners?

In early June, the **Austin Police Department** made headlines when it announced the largest seizure of **illegal gambling machines** in city history. Just after 10am on June 8, Austin police, with help from Travis Co. Sheriff's Office deputies, hit a string of 23 "gaming rooms," seizing nearly 1,000 eight-liners – slot machine-like equipment with screens that display a tic-tac-toe configuration, offering gamers up to eight ways to win on a single play. The raid – dubbed Operation Flatliner – was prompted by citizen complaints and by the number of robberies police say are associated with the rooms. In 2005, police reported 26 robberies at game rooms, although detectives suspect more went unreported; as of June of this year, police recorded 10 game-room-related robberies.

The individuals facing jail on illegal gambling charges are yet to be prosecuted, says Travis Co. Attorney **David Escamilla**, because his office is still investigating. But meanwhile, some of the evidence of the alleged crimes – that is, most of the gaming machines – may have been inadvertently destroyed. For more than a month the nearly 1,000 eight-liners sat outside, on the ground, exposed to the weather – save for a network of green tarps draped over them– on the driving course at APD's training academy in Southeast Austin. So the electronic machines, whose sides are made of particleboard, have been exposed to the elements – both rain and heat. Whether they still work is anybody's guess. (Police say the machines were finally moved to indoor storage late last week.)

Why were the machines left outside for more than a month? The answer depends on whom you ask. Assistant City Manager **Rudy Garza** says he was told that Escamilla's office had "accepted responsibility" for storing the eight-liners, but failed to secure space to do so – a circumstance Garza says the APD was not informed of until shortly before the raid. The County Attorney's Office allegedly told APD, "Oops, [we] didn't secure a loca-

tion," Garza says, but that APD "had to continue" with the planned raid. Once the machines were seized police "had nowhere else to put them but at the academy," where they remained for weeks. "It's my understanding that [the machines have] gotten wet," Garza says, "but we rented a huge tarp and we don't know if they're damaged or not." If the machines are damaged or destroyed – which appears likely – it isn't the city's fault, Garza said, because "the other agency was not able to fulfill what they said they'd do."

Escamilla's version is rather different. In the weeks before the raid, Escamilla says APD asked (likely by Cmdr. **Duane McNeill**, who was actually in charge of Operation Flatliner, according to APD spokesman Kevin Buchman) whether the county would be able to store the seized machines. Escamilla says he told the police he didn't think that would be possible but that he funneled the question to the county officials for a final answer. And "they said, 'No,'" Escamilla recalls. Escamilla says police told him they'd "handle" it on their own.

Under state law the agency that does the seizing is normally responsible for safekeeping any evidence, and under APD policy, it is the "duty and obligation" of police to "properly seize, control, care for, store, process and dispose of property and evidence that may come into their possession." The policy mandates that evidence be collected in a manner "conducive to maintaining its integrity." Buchman insists that the department is "pretty confident" that they've handled the machines properly, and any weather damage "isn't important" because the machines were "pretty much damaged during the [raid]" because officers had to break into many of them in order to "secure the money" inside – "that's what's important, the money inside the machine," he said.

Yet the machines aren't city property unless the accused are ultimately convicted – isn't property destruction before the fact a problem? Buchman told the *Chronicle* that McNeill



Nearly 1,000 eight-liner gaming machines sat for more than a month, exposed to the elements, on the edge of the Austin Police Department academy driving course before police finally moved them to storage last week. The machines, allegedly used for illegal gambling, were seized by police during a citywide raid in June.

would have to answer additional questions; McNeill said that after Escamilla's office failed to secure space for the machines, as promised, the county attorney approved McNeill's backup plan to wrap and store the eight-liners outside. In short, he said, the whole dustup is really a nonissue.

Possessing the machines isn't illegal, but using them for cash-prize gambling is. (Their only legal use, the Texas Supreme Court has ruled, is to award noncash prizes worth no more than \$5 or 10 times the cost of a single play, whichever is less.) The raided establishments were allegedly dealing in cash, and lots of it; police say some of the rooms were pulling more than \$5,000 per day. But that is still an allegation that needs to be proven, and until that happens, the machines aren't the city's to destroy. And even should the owners

be convicted, in theory the authorities could resell the machines to legitimate vendors – if they remained functional.

Escamilla says that while it would've been better not to leave the machines outside, the current state of the equipment won't have any effect on his cases. He says there are just 32 machines directly related to his cases – machines specifically identified by undercover police who gambled at the various establishments in the weeks prior to the raid – and they've been kept under lock and key with the county. Therefore, the hundreds of machines at the academy aren't technically considered evidence in his office's cases, he says. "This was a successful raid, [with just] one black mark," Escamilla said. "The one problem with eight-liner [cases] is that the logistics are staggering." – Jordan Smith

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THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

THE 'NEW' FEMA

The U.S. Senate has voted to kill FEMA. Yes, FEMA is *finito*.

The infamous Federal Emergency Management Agency that so totally botched its handling of last year's Hurricane Katrina emergency that it became a national embarrassment and a comic punch line for comedians everywhere succumbed in the Senate to an 87-11 vote to kill it.

Yet, FEMA still lives in spirit, for at the same time that our senators voted to kill the much-maligned agency, they also voted to create a "new" agency to perform its duties under another name. So, FEMA is now EMA – the Emergency Management Authority.

This is much like how breakfast-cereal makers do when sales sag. They come out with a "New!" version of their product, which usually is the same old stuff – though at a higher price and with less of it in the box. It's a packaging scam.

Not so with EMA, shouts Republican Sen. Susan Collins, who co-sponsored the FEMA redo with sort-of-Democrat Joe Lieberman. "It is not business as usual," she assures us, "but rather a dramatic reform of FEMA."

Really? Aside from the new name, EMA still is stuck in the bungling bureaucratic behemoth known as the Department of Homeland Security, which lobbied heavily to keep the agency in its grasp. Well, yes, say the senators, but we provided an escape clause that lets the *new!* EMA report directly to the president in times of major disasters.

But, what if the president is a major disaster, as Bush was during Katrina? Even though FEMA did warn George about what was coming, he casually vacationed as the hurricane approached and then wandered off to California political rallies while New Orleans and the Gulf Coast drowned.

Gimmicks won't work. The American people need a fully funded, professionally run disaster agency that is independent of bureaucratic overlays and presidential incompetence.

SUBSIDIZING BOEING'S CRIMINALITY

Even when a big corporation is caught red-handed in an illegal scam to steal billions of dollars from us taxpayers – Bush & Company still can't resist showing compassion and favoritism to the corporate brethren, blowing a sweet kiss to the thieving giant.

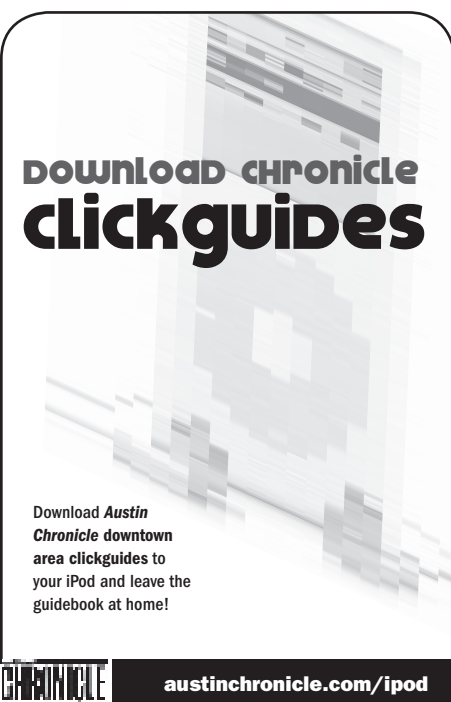
Boeing is this particular giant's name, and it has been a reliable and generous donor to George W. and his Republican party. Maybe that's why Boeing executives thought they could get away with using the horror of 9/11 as a shield to extract \$23 billion from our public treasury through a scheme that involved leasing some of its old passenger planes to the Air Force. Fortunately for us, some whistleblowers made Boeing's blatant burglary public, and, in 2002, Congress stopped Bush's Pentagon from going along with it.

Indeed, there was such a public uproar that the Justice Department filed both criminal and civil charges against Boeing. Now, four years later, Bush's attorney general, Alberto "See-No-Evil" Gonzalez, has quietly settled the case. Boeing is to pay \$615 million, in exchange for which its legal slate will be wiped clean. You might think that that's a sizable punishment, but wait – here comes the Bush kiss. The Justice Department's deal allows Boeing to take a tax deduction on the bulk of its \$615 million penalty.

This means that Boeing's punishment for trying to gouge us taxpayers would be subsidized by – guess who? – us taxpayers! The Bushites' settlement, which forces you and me to underwrite criminal corporate conduct, is so stinky that even Republican lawmakers are appalled. Three GOP senators have called the Boeing deal "inexcusable" and "unacceptable."

If you attempted to rob a bank, as Boeing attempted to rob the U.S. Treasury, chances are the attorney general would not intervene to give you a subsidized fine. In the strange place called BushWorld, however, corporate crime is special.

For more information on Jim Hightower's work – and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, The Hightower Lowdown – visit www.jimhightower.com.



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She's Her Own GRANDMA

Homegirl Carole Keeton Strayhorn is still running ... and running ... and running, after all these years

BY AMY SMITH

At a press conference last month outside her campaign headquarters, Carole Keeton Strayhorn was zipping through a string of run-on sentences at breakneck speed when a low rumble of thunder suddenly boomed in the distance. Any other politician might have responded to the midsentence noisemaker with a little humor, but Strayhorn never even broke pace. She merely dialed up the volume. “Let the race begin!” she hollered.

On this warm June afternoon, the two-term comptroller was trumpeting her confirmation on the November ballot as an independent candidate for governor. After waiting more than

“They [the Perry campaign] were screaming bloody murder because they know our numbers go up 10 points when we use ‘Grandma.’”
– Strayhorn spokesman Mark Sanders

two months for the secretary of state to validate her voter-signed petitions, Strayhorn wasn’t about to let thunder steal a celestial moment in her political career. “If I look like I’m floating, I am,” she gushed, sounding more like a giddy school-girl than the “tough grandma” moniker that’s helped carry her through two previous statewide elections. “I couldn’t be more excited.”

To witness those few hyperkinetic moments in the life of Strayhorn that day – defying an approaching storm one minute, defying gravity the next (speed talking all the while) – was to understand at once why people either love or hate the diminutive but imposing spitfire who lets nothing stand in the way of her leapfrogging political ambitions. Now, after a long, colorful journey from Austin school board president, to Austin mayor, to railroad commissioner, to comptroller, and from liberal Democrat (by Texas standards) to conservative Republican, to independent, to who knows what next – at 66 years old, Strayhorn is just getting warmed up.

She has now set her sights on the governor’s office and, as with every other political challenge she’s taken on, Strayhorn relishes the fight as much as the prospect of winning a race with very long odds. Her prime target in this five-way contest is Republican Gov. Rick Perry, who, despite voter-approval ratings that range from low to mediocre, is at this writing well ahead of Strayhorn and three other rivals – Democrat Chris Bell, independent Kinky Fried-

man, and Libertarian James Werner. No matter who’s side you’re on, the entertainment value alone – thanks to Friedman’s snap and Strayhorn’s bluster – could be just the ticket to get voters, even traditionally nonvoting voters, to the polls on Election Day.

Strayhorn’s biggest handicap right now is uncertain name ID – an odd conundrum for a veteran politico who in 2002 captured more votes than any other statewide elected official, including Perry. She has run successful campaigns in Austin as “Carole Keeton McClellan,” and statewide as “Carole Keeton Rylander,” but never as Strayhorn. (She married her third husband, former high school sweet-heart Ed Strayhorn, shortly after her 2002 re-election to comptroller.) She had hoped to build on her successful “One Tough Grandma” campaign slogan by adding “Grandma” to her name on the ballot, but Secretary of State Roger Williams, a Perry appointee, ruled that “Grandma” is a slogan, not a nickname. A few days later,

Strayhorn accused Perry of sticking his nose in the ballot decision and sued to have the ruling reversed. Spokesman Mark Sanders, referring to the campaign’s internal polling, said they [the Perry campaign] “were screaming bloody murder because they know our numbers go up 10 points when we use ‘Grandma.’”

Strayhorn, who recently welcomed a sixth grandchild to her extended family, frequently offers anecdotal evidence to back up her argument that “I am not a slogan. I am Grandma!” a declaration that in itself has begun to sound like a slogan. “I can go in grocery stores all over this state and people know me as ‘Grandma,’” she says. She recounts a Saturday morning a few weeks ago when she stopped by a McDonald’s to fetch some breakfast for her campaign staff and a “wonderful Hispanic woman” greeted her at the drive-through window. “She said, ‘I know you! I don’t know your name, but you’re Grandma.’ And I said, ‘You are absolutely correct.’”

She Vouches for Carole

The Grandma factor – or its official absence – may help explain Strayhorn’s thus far underwhelming performance in statewide polls. SurveyUSA’s June numbers (and all such early numbers need to be taken with a considerable grain of salt) show Perry at 35% (down six points from May), Friedman up five points to 21%, Bell up two points to 20%, and Strayhorn



Carole Keeton Strayhorn with granddaughter Audrey Page McClellan

down one point to 19%. In other words, Perry could easily win the race with less – much less – than 50% of the vote, which could be embarrassing for him. And think how the rest of us would feel.

“At the end of the day, I think it’s going to be Perry, Bell, Carole, and Kinky” (i.e., in that order), said Austin lobbyist Bill Miller, a Perry supporter who enjoys a good deal of sway at the Capitol under the current administration. “Carole hasn’t shown yet that she can beat Perry, and not until she can clearly and unmistakably show she can beat Perry will she be able to pick up Democratic votes. Otherwise,” he said, “the Democratic voters will default to the home boy [Bell], and he’ll do well accordingly.”

That’s why the Democrats – or at least those publicly true to the home team – are working overtime to drive up Bell’s numbers and to hold Strayhorn at 20%. “She has name ID that we envy, and she’s stuck in the high teens,” said Bell spokesman Jason Stanford. “And now she’s trying to prove that she hasn’t overpoliticized the word ‘Grandma,’ which just makes her look silly. Every time I think this race has gotten as weird as it’s going to get, the sun rises again and we reach new levels of absurdity.” Stanford

elaborated, “Rick Perry just signed the biggest tax increase in state history. Kinky Friedman is trying to put out serious policy, and Carole Strayhorn is asking the state to certify that she’s a grandmother. We don’t have to convince any one that Chris Bell is the sanest choice in this election. That’s not our challenge.”

Indeed, that’s the least of Bell’s challenges. A former U.S. congressman from Houston, he doesn’t have the instant (and free) celebrity media advantage of Friedman, or the institutional (and free) media access afforded officeholders Perry and Strayhorn. For now, he’s trying to keep Strayhorn, a former Democrat, from cutting into his fundraising turf. She has built the second largest war chest behind Perry by tapping into the tills of big-wheel Democratic establishment figures like former Lt. Gov. Ben Barnes, Waco philanthropist Bernard Rapoport, and Laredo millionaire Tony Sanchez, the unsuccessful Democratic candidate for governor in 2002. She’s also hauling in campaign cash from major trial lawyers who have traditionally backed Democrats.

Strayhorn’s advantage as a former school teacher, along with a widely held belief that she’s the strongest candidate in the Anybody-but-Perry field of contestants, has allowed her

to splinter the labor vote with political endorsements from the Texas State Employees Union, the Texas State Teachers Association, and, most recently, the Texas Federation of Teachers. The larger collective labor prize – the Texas AFL-CIO's endorsement – went to Bell.

In part to maintain that crossover money and potential vote, Strayhorn has consistently tried to paint the contest as a two-person race between Grandma and Perry. As the last gubernatorial candidate to address the Texas Classroom Teachers Association last month in Austin, Strayhorn made an effort to distinguish herself from the rest of the pack by providing what were then the most current financial balance sheets for each of the campaigns. Perry, she said, had more than \$9 million in the bank, while she had over \$8 million in ready cash, followed by Friedman with \$271,000, and Bell with \$98,000. "It costs a million dollars a week for TV in Texas," she told the crowd, "and \$98,000 won't get you governor." (Friedman and Bell have since posted balances of \$491,000 and \$654,000, respectively.) That was Strayhorn's way of proving what she had just told them: "This is a two-person race. You can have four more years of Rick Perry, or you can have Carole Keeton 'Grandma' Strayhorn, a teacher, in the governor's office."

On one high-profile issue after another, Strayhorn's critics point to a history of the candidate coming down hard on one side at first, and then later, with a shift in political winds or her own ambitions, chiming in just as hard from the other.

Strayhorn and Bell – who earlier that morning called education his "top priority" and denounced "high-stakes testing" – both scored audible points with the TCTA audience. As campaign styles go, Strayhorn is without question the grandmother of folksy charm. She can move a crowd, work a room, draw you in, hug your neck, and crack up an entire assembly hall with the same cornball jokes she's been telling for years. Before she took the podium, Strayhorn yukked it up with a couple of women in the hallway, sharing with them the oft-told tale of why she talks so fast. See, whenever she helped out in the kitchen at home, her mother would let her lick the beaters on the electric mixer – but she wouldn't turn it off. The women loved that story.

Addressing the teachers group, Strayhorn opened with some down-home humor before jumping feet first into the issue of public education, starting with her own history in the classroom. "I've had a lot of firsts in my life," she said, ticking off a laundry list of milestones: "First woman president of the Austin school board, first woman president of Austin

continued on p.30

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Community College board of trustees [then governed by the AISD board], first woman elected to the Railroad Commission, first woman comptroller. ... But what I'm most proud of – *first* I was a public school teacher, and I *never* forget my roots!"

The teachers ate it up. She then turned on Perry, accusing the governor of "turning his back" on public schools while positioning a private voucher program to become the viable alternative. "My bottom line – vouchers are off the table," she vowed. "As governor I will veto any plan or any legislation that puts a single dollar into any voucher program, period!" By the time Strayhorn wrapped up her 34-minute speed-spiel at the mic – hammering Perry at every turn – Grandma's gift for gab had earned her three standing ovations and more than 20 applause lines. For Strayhorn, it was all in a day's work.

Seeking Higher Ground

Before she was Carole Keeton McClellan or Carole Keeton Rylander or Carole Keeton Strayhorn or Carole Keeton "Grandma" Strayhorn ... she was just Carole Keeton, a hometown Austin girl, one of about 30 kids in Miss James' art class at O'Henry Middle School. Carole wasn't just any kid. She was the daughter of Page Keeton, the revered dean of the UT Law School. Her teacher, Geraldine James (now Jerry England), was practically a kid herself, having just landed her first teaching job. "Of course I knew who she was because she was Dean Keeton's daughter," England recalls. "The entire school was just filled with faculty children." England eventually married and moved out of state, returning to Austin 50 years later in 2004, and – surprise! – discovered Carole Keeton in her living room one night. "I saw her on TV and I thought, my gosh, that's little Carole Keeton from O'Henry!" And England reports that, save for the spectacles she now wears, little Carole Keeton looks just the same. If Strayhorn demonstrated any artistic genius in those early years, her work didn't make a lasting impression on England. "She was just a nice, sweet little girl," she recalls. "I can still remember where she sat, and she was always there, and smiling."

One of two children born to Madge and Page Keeton, Strayhorn and her brother Richard, now a high-profile Houston attorney (and, of late, part of Tom DeLay's defense team), grew up in a household keen on intellectual debate, education, and public service. As Strayhorn is fond of saying, "My father taught the law, my mother

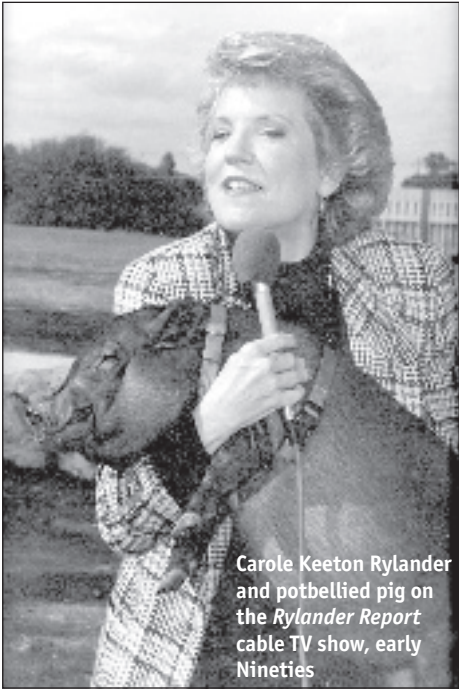
"Carole hasn't shown yet that she can beat Perry, and not until she can clearly and unmistakably show she can beat Perry will she be able to pick up Democratic votes."
– GOP consultant Bill Miller



Spring, 1981: Mayor McClellan celebrates election to her third term, with her mother Madge Keeton and three sons – Scott (left), Mark (right center) and Brad McClellan (nearly hidden between Carole and Mark).



ALAN POGUE



Carole Keeton Rylander and potbellied pig on the Rylander Report cable TV show, early Nineties

COURTESY STRAYHORN CAMPAIGN

was the law." Carole Keeton's three dominant traits – she's competitive (in 1957, she ranked No. 2 in the state in women's doubles tennis), extraordinarily energetic, and super ambitious – combined to deliver her first political victory when she ran for student council president in 1956 at Stephen F. Austin High School.

In those days, Austin High tradition held that boys ran as president and girls signed on as their running mates. Strayhorn, then serving a nonelected role as cheerleader, decided it was time to shake things up. "I went to my dear friend Richard Castruita – Richard and I did the Maypole dance together at Pease Elementary – and I said, 'Richard, how'd you like to run as vice-president?'" Richard, the head cheerleader, agreed to take the No. 2 spot on Carole's ticket. The cheerleading duo crafted a catchy campaign slogan – "Eureka! Keeton and Castruita" – and clinched the race.

(Backstory: Strayhorn shared this anecdote at a press briefing one morning after a reporter asked her how she intends to attract Hispanic voters. The comptroller responded with an entertaining tale – spiced with the Hispanic-sounding name of a "dear friend" – and said absolutely nothing about her strategy to get out the Hispanic vote. "So," Strayhorn concluded with a smile, "my friends are all Texans. That's who I am. I will be all over the state." With that, her ever-present press agent Mark Sanders called the briefing to a halt.)

Strayhorn's lengthy political résumé is highly impressive, but it's also suggestive of a strong impulsive streak. Throughout her career, she has quit one elected post after another in pursuit of the next big thing.

In a nutshell: She had one year remaining in her term on the Austin school board when she

The Money Primary

	Money Raised	Cash on Hand
Rick Perry	\$4.7 million	\$10 million
Carole Strayhorn	\$3.1 million	\$8.1 million
Chris Bell	\$1.63 million	\$654,501
Kinky Friedman	\$1.55 million	\$491,372

Period covered: January-June 2006
Source: Texas Ethics Commission

resigned to run for mayor. Four months before the end of her third two-year term, she quit to serve as former Gov. Mark White's appointee on the State Board of Insurance. She followed with a complete 180 – not only did she quit the insurance board with three years left in her term, she switched to the Republican Party and mounted a campaign to run against Jake Pickle, the long-serving (and it turned out, unbeatable) Democratic giant of an Austin congressman. Pickle died a year ago, on the day Strayhorn announced her candidacy for governor – stealing her thunder once again.

"Probably the big mistake she made that put her on the sidelines was the Pickle race," says Miller. "That knocked her out for a while." But only for a while. In short order she bounced back and ran for a seat on the Railroad Commission in 1992 against Barry Williamson in the Republican primary. Williamson went on to beat Democratic rising star Lena Guerrero – thanks in large measure to Strayhorn, whose campaign handed Williamson's political henchman, none other than Karl Rove, the gift of gold: documents showing that Guerrero had lied about graduating from college. Strayhorn was more than happy to let Rove take the credit for nailing Guerrero. Her reward would come later. In 1994, GOP party bosses got behind Strayhorn in her bid for the Railroad Commission, and, of course, she won. Shortly into her first full term, she began laying the groundwork to run for state comptroller, winning in 1998 (with a hefty financial boost from San Antonio voucher proponent James Leininger, who stopped supporting Strayhorn when she stopped supporting vouchers). She won re-election four years later.

Even before then, it was clear where she was headed next. But to get there, she needed incumbent and fellow Republican Rick Perry's head. On a platter. When she announced in January that she would run for governor as an independent, GOP leaders offered her head, too – right off the wall of the Republican Party of Texas headquarters. No telling where her framed mug ended up.

Nailed to the Nuke

After graduating from UT in 1961, Strayhorn entered the world of public service as a school teacher at McCallum High. She married her first husband, attorney Barr McClellan (father of her four sons; they divorced early in Strayhorn's first term as mayor). If there are two personal characteristics that genuinely distinguish her from her gubernatorial rivals, it is her intrinsic bond with school teachers and single mothers. "I don't think she slept," said her son and campaign manager Brad McClellan. "She'd sometimes be up, doing work, doing laundry, getting our lunches together. I think

she gave up her social life, too. ... It was kids and it was work."

Frustrated with the lack of direct teacher representation on the Austin school board, Strayhorn took matters into her own hands and mounted her first citywide campaign for AISD trustee in 1972. "She was head and shoulders above the other candidates," says former Mayor Gus Garcia, who made his first bid for trustee the same year, becoming the first Hispanic elected to the board. "She was very hard-working, very smart, very connected. She was Old Austin, so to speak. And she knew the issues because she had been a teacher." Garcia and Strayhorn were part of what was then considered a dream team of a school board; it also included its first African-American woman, Wil-

"This is a two-person race. You can have four more years of Rick Perry, or you can have Carole Keeton 'Grandma' Strayhorn, a teacher, in the governor's office."
— Carole Keeton Strayhorn

helmina Delco, who went on to represent East Austin in the state House of Representatives. In Garcia's admittedly Austin-centric view, Strayhorn's performance on the school board ranks among her greatest political achievements.

Having been a tennis competitor in high school, one of Strayhorn's pet projects as an AISD trustee centered on Title IX issues providing opportunities for girls to take part in school athletics. (Perhaps in part as a way of showing her appreciation to Strayhorn's support of women athletes, UT Lady Longhorn basketball coach Jody Conratt signed Strayhorn's petition to secure a place on the ballot in the governor's race.)

Strayhorn was "very meticulous" on curriculum issues, Garcia says, and she could always be counted on to support matters pertaining to civil rights. "She had a lot of friends in both the Hispanic and black communities, and she did her homework," he says. "She basically worked with us, and we could always count on her votes [on minority issues]." Even now, with their political differences — Garcia is a hardcore Democrat — he and his family have maintained a lasting friendship with Strayhorn. "I'm not particularly enamored with the idea of her being a Republican," he says, "but more than likely I will vote for her, and so will members of my family." And Garcia echoed the widely held belief — and a growing source of irritation for Bell supporters — that the race is between Strayhorn and Perry. "If anybody can beat Perry," he insists, "it's Carole. ... And if she can't beat him, she'll make a Christian out of him."

Strayhorn began her political metamorphosis during her tenure as Mayor McClellan, a title she held from 1977 to 1983. Before taking office, she had campaigned for Jeff Friedman, an early voting-rights advocate and anti-Vietnam

War activist who was a City Council member before advancing to mayor in 1975. Friedman served one term in the mayor's seat and then campaigned for Strayhorn, in those times the liberal challenger to conservative candidate Jack McCreary. "My introduction to her was, in part, through her dad," said Friedman, who recalled meeting her shortly after he graduated from law school, where he had become a huge admirer of Dean Keeton.

Asked whether Strayhorn shared many of her father's traits, Friedman paused for a moment. "Her bona fides were there, so she may well be similar to him in a lot of different ways," he said. But there was one noticeable difference between father and daughter, as Friedman considers it now. "His compromises were based on the concept of doing the right thing, as opposed to, how [the compromises] would help him get ahead." On social issues, at least in the early part of her administration, she remained true to her values. "She never gave us any problem when I was trying to get Brackenridge Hospital to perform abortions," Friedman said. "And she was very actively oriented toward public input and citizen involvement, which is not too different than how she is now."

But more than any other decision she made in all her years as mayor, Strayhorn is most remembered as the person who — as former *Austin Chronicle* writer Robert Bryce phrased it — "nailed us to the Nuke." As Bryce recounted in a 1998 piece, city voters in 1979, just a few days after the nuke meltdown at Three Mile Island, faced a mayoral race as well as two opposing propositions on the ballot. One proposed that the city should sell its interest in the South Texas Nuclear Project; the other called for keeping the marriage intact by issuing \$215.8 million in new debt to continue participating in the Nuke. Strayhorn served as the pro-Nuke cheerleader, taking out an ad in the *Austin American-Statesman*, one day before the election, that said, "The only way — the only way — to insure that your utility bills will be as low as possible is to vote to stay in the South Texas Nuclear Project." Voters on both sides turned out in droves, and the majority gave Strayhorn everything she wanted — re-election to another term and a pro-Nuke victory on the propositions. "That has more or less plagued her in the progressive community," Friedman says. "She was an absolute fan [of the Nuke], and when we had a chance to vote against it, she came out, just after Three Mile Island, with total support, and I think that was poisonous. That pretty much set her off in many people's minds that she wasn't a true-blue progressive."

Her support for the Nuke was a slap, but her switch to the Republican Party, followed by her dramatic shift to the right, confirmed her rift with progressives. "I was just dumbfounded," Friedman recalls of her transformation. "She never expressed, let alone lived — at least what the public saw — a Republican approach. But I think if you were going to take on a congressman as deeply seated as Jake, she had to do something different." Still, he says, "I don't think her dad would have made those choices. He just said what was right. And there are times when she exhibits the same type of greatness."

With the exception of the Nuke issue, Austin environmental matriarch Mary Arnold largely

continued on p.32

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– former Austin Mayor
Gus Garcia

gives Strayhorn good marks as mayor. “I guess one of my biggest disappointments was when she switched to the Republican Party,” she said. “By then she wasn’t involved in city issues as much, but I’d run into her every once in a while, and we’d have a nice little visit. But am I supporting her? Noooo. I’m sticking with the Democratic Party.”

Eastside activist Larry Jackson says he disagreed with Strayhorn’s Nuke stance and a number of other issues, but he’s bullish on Strayhorn for governor and even refrained from voting in the primary to keep his name valid on her petition. “As mayor, she had a real sensitivity to the plight of African-Americans,” he says. “Even when she switched parties, she didn’t switch the kind of sensitivity needed to highlight the situation of African-Americans, then and now.”

The Permanent Campaigner

Shortly after Strayhorn took over the Comptroller’s job in 1999, her Democratic predecessor, John Sharp, offered her some friendly advice, written in the form of a letter and published in the June issue of *Texas Monthly*. “One of the realities of your job,” he wrote, “is that the public will generally be unaware of how much you do. Everyone from the governor on down will take credit for your work ... That’s okay. You serve the public’s interests, not your own. Anything is possible if it doesn’t matter who gets the credit.”

Has Strayhorn followed Sharp’s lead and served the public’s interest? The consensus is generally yes. Has she served her own interests in the process? The consensus is, overwhelmingly, yes. Just two months after Sharp’s letter



Late Seventies ceremony dedicating “City of Austin” jet, Bergstrom Air Force Base (now ABIA). Civilians in first row (l to r): council members Richard Goodman, Betty Himmelblau, Mayor McClellan, John Treviño

appeared in *TM*, Strayhorn (then Rylander) showed up at Antone’s – Austin’s beloved music venue – one bustling Saturday night in August. She hadn’t come to hear guitar legend Monte Montgomery. She was there to steal the show, in a media-orchestrated tax raid with plenty of camera-ready visuals: state agents seizing cash registers seeking \$22,000 in back liquor taxes while the comptroller stood outside and provided sound bites. About 400 people went home really pissed that night, because they had paid \$10 at the door to see Monte, and all they got was Grandma. The tax police collected \$8,221 from the cash boxes, and Strayhorn got her picture on the front page of Sunday’s *Austin American-Statesman*, next to a quote from a patron comparing her actions to the Gestapo. Most everyone else in town agreed.

In the years that followed, Strayhorn’s media events have largely centered on the comptroller’s drawing lines in the sand with Perry and/or the Legislature. Her revenue estimates, released before each regular ses-

sion of the Legislature cranks up every other January, served as her best outlet for airing whatever dirty laundry had piled up during the off season. In 2003, when she dropped the bombshell of a \$10 billion budget shortfall, she laid blame at the Legislature’s doorstep, saying lawmakers had “thrown a party” in the 2001 session and “left the taxpayers with a hangover.”

It was classic “fiscal conservative” rhetoric, but it also fit a pattern that became characteristic for Strayhorn’s political behavior, the often double-edged swords of her permanent campaign. She would blast the Legislature and the governor for spending too much money – always a dubious charge in a state distinguished by one of the stingiest per capita budgets in the country – and would sternly advocate program “reforms” (for example, to children’s Medicaid) designed to slash rising costs. Then, when those draconian reforms and others like them were duly instituted by the Republican-dominated Legislature and



Carole and Ed Strayhorn first met and fell in love nearly 50 years ago at a state tennis match. Their long-distance courtship – Ed lived 400 miles away in Pyote – blossomed into a marriage proposal in 1957. But Carole’s parents said she was too young to marry, and the heartbroken Carole dutifully returned the ring but kept the Zales box as a keepsake. Decades and marriages followed for both as the two pursued different paths, Carole entering politics and Ed launching a successful tennis court construction business. The pair rekindled the flame in 2002, and in December of that year, Ed again popped the question, presenting her with the same ring she had returned all those years ago.



Father Page Keeton and Mayor Carole McClellan celebrate her re-election to a third term, spring 1981.

endorsed by Gov. Perry – Strayhorn would blast the Lege and the governor for balancing the budget by cutting children’s health care, or teachers’ pensions, or some other broadly popular program. On one high-profile issue after another – Medicaid, foster care, school vouchers, toll roads – Strayhorn’s critics point to a history of the candidate coming down hard on one side at first, and then later, with a shift in state political winds or her own ambitions, chiming in just as hard from the other. There are plenty of Texas Republicans, Rick Perry among them, who were once stoutly proud Democrats, but Strayhorn – in this current political year a newly metamorphosed Republican “independent” – seems to have raised the state’s turncoat tradition to a new level of expediency.

Carole Rising: A political résumé

YEAR	POLITICAL OFFICE	HOW SHE GOT THE JOB ...	HOW SHE LEFT THE JOB
1972-1977	AISD Board Member and President	Elected 1972	Resigned one year before end of term to run for mayor
1977-1983	Austin Mayor	Elected 1977	Resigned four months before end of third term to serve on State Board of Insurance
1983-1985	State Board of Insurance	Appointed by Democratic Gov. Mark White	Three years before term ended, she switched from “D” to “R” and mounted a campaign to run against Democratic U.S. Rep. Jake Pickle – which she lost in 1986
1994-1998	Texas Railroad Commissioner	Elected 1994 (after losing first bid in 1992 GOP primary)	Announced candidacy for comptroller six months into first term; lost first bid for commissioner in 1992 GOP primary
1998-2006	Texas Comptroller	Elected 1998	Announced candidacy for governor a year before end of term, which ends this year
2006	Texas Governor	Independent (Republican) candidate	To be determined

The McClellan Boys

You can fault Carole Keeton Strayhorn for a lot of things, but you can't fault this single mom for raising four nice, well-behaved boys who stay out of trouble. Strayhorn's own enemies will give her that much. Here's what's become of them:

Mark McClellan – The only doctor in a family of lawyers and teachers, Mark oversees Medicare and Medicaid Services in the Bush administration. Today, he's still working out the kinks in what was supposed to have been a new and improved Medicare program. He's considered the true bipartisan in the family, having crafted health-care policy in the Clinton administration that Al Gore had hoped to implement in his.

Dudley McClellan – Dudley is assistant general counsel for the State Bar of Texas and previously served as the RunTex counsel. The former captain of the Harvard University cross-country team, Dudley is a regular on the Town Lake trail.

Brad McClellan – Twin brother of Dudley, Brad is managing Strayhorn's campaign, a job he took after leaving his assistant attorney general post at the state.

Scott McClellan – "Scottie baby," to his mom, recently left his gig as Bush's press secretary and dropped his deer-in-the-headlights look. He's kicking back now, offering campaign advice via phone to his mom. Scott managed many of Strayhorn's campaigns before then Gov. George Bush summoned him to his team. – A.S.

When she publicly fought the Lege, payback was just around the corner. Lawmakers snuffed her ambitious TexasNextStep program, which would have provided free tuition for students attending community colleges. Once the session ended, Strayhorn grabbed another headline. She refused to certify the budget because it wouldn't balance – budget writers had inadvertently axed \$200 million from a highways fund. It took nearly an act of God to broker a compromise to get her to certify the thing. When Perry called lawmakers back to town that summer for what turned into multiple special sessions on (no, not school finance) congressional redistricting, Strayhorn saw two

boys at the Capitol. But then, the former staffer went on to explain, "Bullock and Sharp were creatures of the Legislature, having served there, and they knew the limits. They knew if they pushed too hard, the Legislature would push back. And I don't think she ever understood the give-and-take of that arena."

In Strayhorn's case, when the Legislature pushed back, she just pushed back harder, and – boom! – another bloody war ensued. For now, though, Grandma is content just to battle with the big chief, the one she needs to tomahawk to get to the governor's office and thereby complete her extraordinary Texas political odyssey. Her ability to tap deep campaign pockets remains undiminished, and the big institutional endorsements – especially from teachers' organizations – reflect that there are plenty of Texans so desperate to defeat Perry that they're willing to forget (or ignore) more than a few abrupt reversals in course by their de facto standard-bearer.

The problem for Texas voters, come November, is that "Grandma" Strayhorn sticks to her rhetorical guns as stubbornly as she sticks to her well-worn script. One on one, she comes across as incredibly friendly, funny, and animated, in a just-us-girls yakkin' kind of way. But when she leans in and stares intently into your eyes as though she's going to wander off that script and actually say something, anything, that she hasn't already said literally thousands of times before ... she'll grab a sound bite out of her mental database and declare – "I run with the people!" or "This governor has [fill-in-the-blank outrage]" – or toss out a quote from Sam Houston before the battle of San Jacinto: "We are nerved for the contest and must conquer or perish." She inevitably follows that solemnly with "I, too, am nerved for the contest."

Carole Keeton Strayhorn, Grandma for Governor, has certainly been at the state political game quite long enough to persuade Texans that she is more than sufficiently "nerved for the contest." What they still may not be clear on is precisely what sort of governor they'll get, should she win. ■

There are plenty of Texas Republicans who were once proud Democrats, but Strayhorn – now a newly metamorphosed Republican "independent" – seems to have raised the state's turncoat tradition to a new level of expediency.

of her agency's most visible programs – e-Texas Performance Review and the Texas School Performance Review – transferred out of her office, effectively shutting down her (and future comptrollers') best vehicle for influencing public policy and getting some press out of it, too. Strayhorn was furious. She accused Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, and Perry, too, of greasing the wheels that moved the measure through the Lege. The maneuver was punishment, she said, "because I told the truth" about the \$10 billion shortfall and the budget being out of whack.

People familiar with the workings of the agency agree that the programs, particularly the School Performance Review created under Sharp, belong in the comptroller's office. "I don't think that would have ever happened under Sharp or [former comptroller and Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock]," said one former employee who worked under Sharp and briefly under Strayhorn.


Of course, a legitimate argument could be made that Strayhorn's gender, not to mention her "one tough Grandma" personality, might also figure into her strained relations with the

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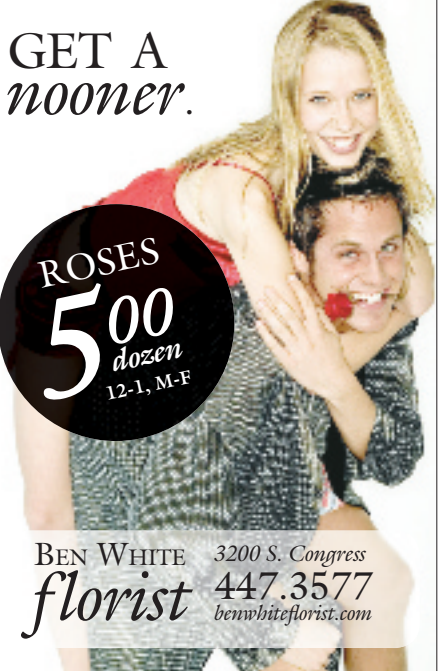
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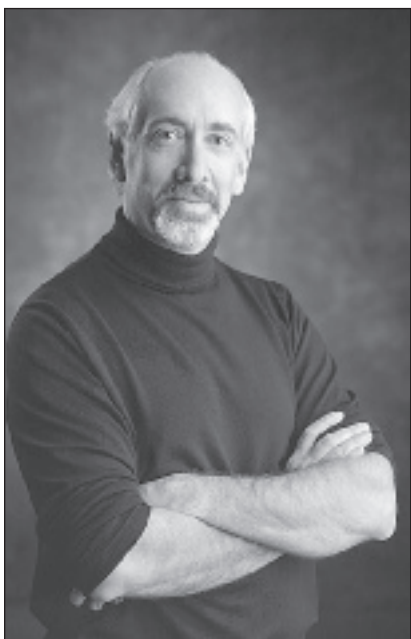
the arts

36 KING LEAR AT WINEDALE
38 BOOK REVIEWS
40 AFTER A FASHION

RICHARD BUCKLEY: A maestro of two cities

What is it Austin and Cleveland have in common? State capitals? No. Pro sports teams? No. Opera conductors? That's it. Richard Buckley, who has been conducting Austin Lyric Opera productions for three seasons as ALO's artistic director, is now taking his baton up to the Ohio metropolis to serve as principal conductor for Opera Cleveland, a professional company formed in April by the union of Cleveland Opera and Lyric Opera Cleveland. Seems Buckley's stint conducting Cleveland Opera's *Turandot* last November went so swimmingly that the merged companies were eager to sign him up for their new artistic team. The maestro will conduct two productions in Opera Cleveland's kickoff season – Verdi's *La Traviata* in June, 2007 and Puccini's *Tosca* in October – and advise Opera Cleveland on artistic and orchestral matters. None of this affects Buckley's standing in Austin. He'll balance the Cleveland job with his ongoing duties at ALO and is on board to conduct all three productions in the company's 20th-anniversary season: Puccini's *Madame Butterfly* in November; the American premiere of Philip Glass's *Waiting for the Barbarians* next January; and Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* next April. For more information, call 472-5992 or visit www.austinelyricopera.org.

– Robert Faires



F8 FINE ART GALLERY: Cast your F8 to the wind

"The Last Picture Show" isn't just an evocative name for the current exhibition at the F8 Fine Art Gallery. It's truly the last picture show for this West End showplace for visual art. Amy and Richard Griffin, who launched the gallery in 2000 and made it a home for the likes of painters Ray Donley and Jennifer Balkan and photographers Rosanne Olson and Raymond Copley (as well as the Griffins themselves), are closing the space at the end of July and casting their F8 to the wind, as it were. Over the six years the Griffins have had the gallery, it's taken so much of their time that they haven't been able to pursue their creative careers. So closing F8 is really freeing their photographic spirits. The couple isn't giving up gallery life completely, however. Come the fall, you'll be able to go across the street from their current home and find their work on display in a minigallery upstairs in the Wally Workman Gallery. And the West End won't be losing an arts space. Lisa Russell is opening a second location of the Russell Collection, and she's even absorbing some of the artists from the F8 stable to show with her older masterworks. Until July 31, though, it's still F8 and still at 1137 W. Sixth. For more information, call 480-0242, or visit www.f8fineart.com.

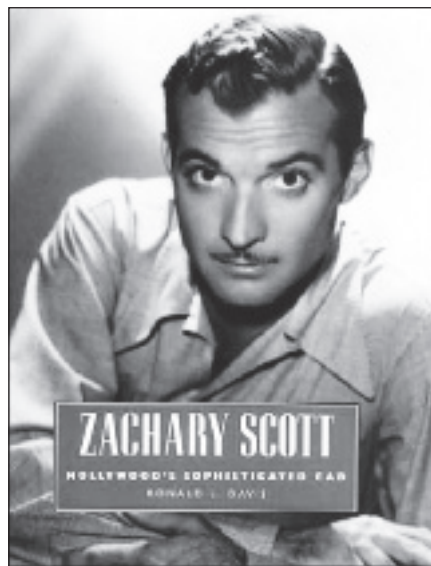
– R.F.



CULTURE FLASH!

• Ever wonder why Austin has a theatre named after Zachary Scott or what else he did besides bedevil Joan Crawford in *Mildred Pierce*? Well, you can find out from author Ronald L. Davis, who's just penned the first biography of the Broadway and Hollywood actor who cut his dramatic teeth at Austin Civic Theatre. Davis will talk about the book **Zachary Scott, Hollywood's Sophisticated Cad** at – where else? – the Zachary Scott Theatre Center this Saturday. Davis crafted his portrait from interviews with Scott and his friends, as well as correspondence from the Scott papers at UT and the Warner Bros. archives. A booksigning will follow the free talk Saturday, July 29, 6pm, at Zach's Whisenhunt Arena Stage, 1510 Toomey. For more information, call 476-0541 x1.

• Public art got a fresh, public ripping last week following a pair of *Statesman* columns on the Lamar underpass work, *Moments* – you know, the one with the blue metal signs. Clearly not a favorite for a lot of folks. In fact, the level of outrage



was so excessive, you'd have thought the artist stapled dead puppies to those signs. The timing could hardly be better, then, for the city's **Art in Public Places program** to be holding a workshop series providing an overview of the public-art-making process. The programs are

designed for artists, but any citizen is welcome and could gain insight into the way public art comes to be. This week's workshop, From the Studio to Public Art, is Saturday, July 29, 11am–1pm, at play! Theatre, 1204 Cedar. The remaining workshops are Aug. 26 and Sept. 30. For more information, visit www.cityofaustin.org/aipp.

• **TexARTS**, the new performing arts academy and producer of the recent concert version of *The Music Man*, has scored a Central Texas stop for the **national auditions for the 2006 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade**. Kids ages 10-14 are needed for the opening production number, "Give Me a Drum!" composed by Michael Feinstein and choreographed by Tony Parise. Children chosen to perform will also participate in a five-day workshop conducted by Camp Broadway (fee: \$695 per child). Open-call auditions will begin at 10am, Friday, Aug. 4, in the Winship Drama Building, 23rd and San Jacinto, UT campus. Children are encouraged to bring a head-shot and résumé, and be prepared to dance and, if asked, sing. For more information, call 965-6050.

– R.F.

'KAZILLIONAIRE': Divorced from reality

Here's the world of *Kazillionaire*, the world called Kazillionaire, as created by the godlike Father Space and Mother Time, two über-deities who have recently sundere their nuptial and other ties due to, it seems, irreconcilable differences. Here's a comedy show created and performed by Jeremy Lamb (Father Space) and Madeline Malka (Mother Time), who have been around the performative block a time or two.

Lamb's a veteran of the Well Hung Jury, an innovative and (in improv comedy circles, at least) legendary Austin troupe of years past. Lamb, who's freshly back from three years in Chicago, where he trained with members of Second City and I.O. (formerly known as the ImprovOlympic) is also part of the Available Cupholders and performs successfully on his own as Bearded Lamb.

Malka, likewise, returns to Austin from Chicago and from a brief but storied history of national improv festivals and competitions and marathons. The UT grad has previously worked with the likes of Rubber Repertory and Kitty Kitty Bang Bang here in A-town and has been lauded while plying her trade upon many a local stage.

And now here are the two of them, back together in the Live Music Yadda Yadda, as *Kazillionaire*. It's a sketch show because there are prewritten (and sometimes prerecorded), rehearsed parts; it's an improv gig because there are many parts that, while hewing to the mimsy, mystical backstory, are conjured on the spot.

Dying is easy, they say; comedy is hard. Also difficult is reviewing a show that's as equally and starkly divided in quality as it is in content. Because the parts of *Kazillionaire* that were irrelevant to the concept of *Kazillionaire*? The parts of the show that were wordless and built entirely of physical comedy? Those parts were genius. Those parts were the equal of Andy Kaufman in idea, beyond Jim Carrey in execution. Those parts – Lamb and Malka perfectly synchronized, dancing all spastically hip-hop and juggling hamburgers to a Japanese McDonald's soundtrack; Lamb performing a live caricature (not an impression, a *caricature*: as if the work of Steve Brodner had been animated) of that idiot in the White House; Lamb, on video, playing air guitar naked – inspired admiration and forced helpless laughter. The phrase "comedy gold" has been long devalued through overuse; in a world where a team of crazed Superman clones was trying to rape and murder you, the physical-comedy parts of *Kazillionaire* would be comedy kryptonite.

But then came the Father Space/Mother Time backstory, again and again. And each time Lamb and Malka started *talking*, each time those improv pros assayed what must be their stock in trade, well, Christ, I was stunned. Because I've seen lesser talents do some really bad improv; but I've rarely seen anything quite as relentlessly awkward and dull as the talking parts of *Kazillionaire*. And how those two distinct parts of the show can be so unequal, especially knowing how good Lamb and Malka have been in other improv situations, especially having witnessed comedy magnificence scant seconds before ... well, such conjecture may not be beyond Space and Time, but it's way beyond me.

So I can't recommend *Kazillionaire* as a worthwhile experience. Were its creators to forget the snooze-worthy Father Space and Mother Time shtick and do a new show based solely on the distinctly good parts, I would drag everyone I know to see brilliance as it happens live (or recorded) on stage. As it is, this review aspires to be a big fat brick in the wall to keep people away. – Wayne Alan Brenner

Kazillionaire runs through July 29, Thursday-Saturday, 8:30pm, at the Hideout, 617 Congress. For more information, call 443-3688 or visit www.kazillionaire.org.

Lear Jaunt

Matthew Radford explains how a professional British actor wound up playing Shakespeare in a Central Texas barn

BY CLAYTON MAXWELL

The Bard is back at the barn. Shakespeare at Winedale, the UT English department program that has been mounting Shakespearean plays in a 19th-century barn near Round Top for 36 years, has another trio ready for your pleasure: *King Lear*, *As You Like It*, and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. But there's something different at Winedale this summer. In a departure from the program's custom of casting students with little or no stage experience, the title role in *Lear* is being played by Matthew Radford, an actor who's been performing Shakespeare professionally in the UK for 15 years. He came to Austin to get a graduate degree in the English department, although he's kept his hand in the profession by performing with the Austin Shakespeare Festival. (His performance as Buckingham in ASF's *Richard III* earned him a 2006 Austin Critics Table Award.) Shakespeare at Winedale alum Clayton Maxwell spoke with Radford about his summer at Winedale, what he's learning from it, and how *Lear* puts his iambic pentameter to the test.

□

Austin Chronicle: You originally came to Austin via the touring Shakespeare group *Actors From the London Stage*. Tell me about that and how it led to playing *Lear* with Shakespeare at Winedale?

Matthew Radford: I discovered Winedale in 1999 when I first toured with *Actors From the London Stage* – a group that does pretty much what the name suggests. I toured all over the States with a few other actors performing Shakespeare. I came back with AFTLS in 2001 and 2003, and each time I came through Austin. During my first tour, James Loehlin [Shakespeare at Winedale's current director] and Doc [James Ayres, the UT English professor who founded the program in 1970] told me about the barn. I asked them, "Why don't we do our show out there?" They said no, it's too far away, the space is too small, etc., and I said, "No, we can do it anywhere." And the next year, AFTLS did perform at Winedale. Then I came back in 2001, and we did *Midsummer Night's Dream* there, and I thought, "This is a fantastic place." We had four hours to totally reblock the entire show, but we did it. It was fantastic. So when I came to the university for a Ph.D. course last year, I became James' teaching assistant, and we did the spring Winedale class. Then he asked if I'd come out for the summer, and I decided to give it a go. It's a big



Radford prepares to transform himself into King Lear as Shakespeare at Winedale director James Loehlin looks on.

In London, you become tired, a bit jaded. You start to encounter quite a bit of cynicism. But around here, well, cynicism very much doesn't work. The sheer exuberance and enthusiasm of Winedale reinvigorates any text that you come across. People are willing to throw themselves into any role. This has been enormously instructive for me.

– Matthew Radford

commitment. I had no idea it meant getting up at 5:55 every morning. He kept that all quiet.

AC: You didn't know about the boot camp?

MR: Or the Bard camp, as they call it. No, I didn't know much about the rigors of Winedale when I accepted. Anyway, James asked me about playing *Lear*, and I thought, "That's ridiculous, I'm half *Lear*'s age." James kindly reminded me that I'm twice the Winedale students' age. You'd really have to ask James why he wanted to bring me out here, but I think the idea was just to approach *Lear* as a professional actor would. In one sense, I am a professional actor, but I am also a student at the university. And I knew, from previous classes, two-thirds of these students. So I'm not some external actor/commentator just inserted into the equation. And I'm one of the assistant directors in two of the shows. [Dan Keegan is the other.] Because the students know me, it's not alienating. If I thought I was bringing too much professionalism into this world, I wouldn't have come. We'll wait and see if it's going to be successful or not, but it's not been a problem so far.

AC: What type of acting did you do in England?

MR: I've been based in London for the past 15 years, doing mainly theatre, loads of Shakespeare. Shakespeare chose me; I didn't really choose Shakespeare. I didn't understand it at first. I never would have done anything like Winedale when I was these students' age – would have scared the life out of me. I didn't get a good understanding of Shakespeare until my fifth professional production. Suddenly, I had the lightbulb moment, and it just

made sense. I was 27, doing *Macbeth* at the Hong Kong Festival, and it suddenly was like – this is fantastic! And I can't get enough of it now. Subsequently, it's been nice that I've been able to work in Austin as well, with the Austin Shakespeare Festival and *Richard III* and *Hamlet*. It's been good to do Shakespeare with the acting community in Austin.

AC: Is theatre in Austin significantly different from that in England?

MR: It is different. In England, the government subsidizes theatre. It's not a lot of money, you understand, but a living wage. That means you can just act, that's what you do most of the time. Here, most actors just can't earn enough money; it's not there. So everybody has a day job, which means rehearsals are at night. That's a shocking experience. Because everyone's tired. Because you have to rehearse until 11 o'clock at night, then get up early, do a full day's work, and go back and do it again. I have nothing but admiration for how people actually do it. It does mean there's a lot less rehearsal time than I'm used to, so it's kind of done on the fly. If you're an actor, it's your only choice, which means that some things are far more creative and adventurous because people have to jump out and say, let's try this. So it's not better or worse, it's just very different.

AC: Isn't your coming here to perform Shakespeare kind of like my going to London to two-step?

MR: Coals to Newcastle, as we say. Well, I don't think it's surprising as all that. Shakespeare is not that popular in our country. It's not done as much as people think. You have the famous companies: the Globe and the

Royal Shakespeare Company. And the National Theatre will occasionally put on a production. But outside of that, the repertory theatres or the regional theatres all over the country will only do Shakespeare every one or two years. And they won't dare put on the more radical ones, just *Romeo and Juliet* or whatever is on the school syllabus – so that the kids will come in. You're sure not going to see *Henry VI, Part II*. But in the U.S., because people are doing Shakespeare for the love of it or as part of summer festivals, there is a lot more Shakespeare done here. In the summer, I am amazed at how many hundreds of productions are going on across the country, and they're done in all sorts of different ways. So I think in some ways there is a greater appreciation of Shakespeare here than in England. I really do. When I came with AFTLS, we got that feeling almost from the outset. People really like and care about it here.

AC: Are the students in the U.S. also more appreciative of Shakespeare?

MR: Absolutely. There are battles in the UK to take Shakespeare off the syllabus at school. They don't succeed, but persistently there are battles about this. It's a bit embarrassing for us. I always say that just because I'm English – well, Welsh actually, but we'll say English to keep matters simple – that doesn't mean my mother read Shakespeare to me in the cradle. Some people assume because you've got the accent, you grew up doing Shakespeare. I promise you that is not the case.

AC: How is the Winedale program different from the Shakespeare you've done before?

MR: It's hugely different. I've never done anything like this. It's a very intense experience, isn't it? Certainly in the first week I wasn't sure it was the right choice. It was very alienating, a culture shock – you know, singing songs before breakfast. Totally immersing yourself, never being alone for a moment, making your own costumes, your own props – it's tough. But now I'm into it. You have your down days where you

Shakespeare at Winedale 2006 Schedule

The 2006 Shakespeare at Winedale season runs through Aug. 13. All performances take place at the Theatre Barn of the Winedale Historical Center, four miles from Round Top, Texas. Tickets are \$10 (\$5 students). For more information, call 471-4726 or visit www.shakespeare-winedale.org. The schedule is:

King Lear: Saturday, July 29, 2pm; Sunday, July 30, 7:30pm; Thursday, Aug. 3, 7:30pm; Saturday, Aug. 5, 7:30pm; Friday, Aug. 11, 7:30pm; and Sunday, Aug. 13, 2pm.

Two Gentlemen of Verona: Thursday, July 27, 7:30pm; Saturday, July 29, 7:30pm; Friday, Aug. 4, 7:30pm; Sunday, Aug. 6, 2pm; Saturday, Aug. 12, 2pm; Sunday, Aug. 13, 7:30pm.

As You Like It: Friday, July 28, 7:30pm; Sunday, July 30, 2pm; Saturday, Aug. 5, 2pm; Sunday, Aug. 6, 7:30pm; Thursday, Aug. 10, 7:30pm; and Saturday, Aug. 12, 7:30pm.

think, "I just want to get out of here." But the teamwork is incredible. Yeah, I love it.

AC: Are you participating in everything the students do?

MR: Yes, yes, making my own costumes, my own props. We all performed poems on the first night. At the moment, I'm teaching them the Welsh national anthem. Lear was a Romano-Celt, so that's my argument. I said to James that as a Welshman, I think we should learn the Welsh national anthem, so he said, "Why, are you going to teach it?" Now he likes it so much that I hope we are going to put it in the show, which will please my dad a lot.

AC: What would you say the students are gaining from your being here as an actor and director? This is the first time that this has been done out here.

MR: It's difficult for me to answer that question. There are times when I've thought that perhaps this is not a good idea. But we did the dress rehearsal of *Lear* last Saturday. Terrifying, after a week. We rehearse a show for a week, then dress rehearse it in front of ex-Winedalers, then go to the second show for a week, dress rehearse, do the same thing with the third show, then return back to all the plays. And once you've got an audience out there, it's a performance. It's a very focusing experience. And there were 35 people there for the dress rehearsal of *Lear*. Oh, dear me, we had a few close calls, but we got through. James said afterward that he was glad that I was here, so I was relieved to hear that.

So how do I help them? A lot of practical stuff. [At this moment, Rachel Sibley, a student, walks in.] Actually, you can ask her what the hell I'm doing here.

AC: Hi Rachel. OK, would you mind telling me how it helps to have a professional actor here?

Rachel Sibley: You've asked a very specific individual because I'm the Fool in *Lear*, so Matthew and I do a lot of work together. It's interesting

because we have James as the director – you know, as much as anyone is an official director out here – and Dan is also an assistant director, but Matt plays between the lines because he's also in a play. We call him "Gags" because he keeps throwing gags into the scenes.

MR: You always need gags.

AC: You mean little onstage tricks to keep people on their toes?

RS: He is an expert in that. We play with these improvised things a lot. But mostly, it's helpful to have a professional here because many of us are not very familiar with a lot of the basics of theatre: interacting across distances, angling out – the little things that are really important onstage. Matt gives us a lot of tips, but without being too hands-on, because it's a discovery process, discovering on your own. We talked a little bit amongst ourselves about the difference between acting on stage with Matt versus acting with one another. There isn't that big a difference really, except that Matt can really hold his own. Onstage, there are all these different levels of interaction, and you can rise up to a level or sink down to a level. Ideally, everyone in the scene works together, and you feel like the energy can reach a peak. Matthew helps us with this. He gave us this analogy, and it describes the phenomenon well: Are you passing on a tennis ball or a medicine ball to the person you are on stage with? The medicine ball is heavy and hard to handle, and it doesn't help you out with your line. The tennis ball is very light and easy to move back and forth. So we talk a lot about that – well, actually we don't talk about it as much as we grapple with it. Acting with someone like Matt, someone who is very comfortable, can oftentimes draw people out and makes it easier on all of us.

AC: Matthew, is there anything that Winedale has illuminated for you that your former acting experiences have not?

MR: Inevitably, yes, but how well I'm going to be able to put that into words at the moment I don't know. One of the reasons I wanted to come to the U.S. was to take a little sabbatical. In London, you become tired, a bit jaded, and you start doing it for the money. You start to encounter quite a bit of cynicism. But around here, well, cynicism very much doesn't work. You don't see it. The sheer exuberance and enthusiasm of Winedale reinvigorates any text that you come across. People are willing to throw themselves into any role – whatever the case. This has been enormously instructive for me. I'm playing a part that is

ridiculous for me to play: an 80-year-old. But the last time it was done out here, it was done by a 22-year-old. So you think, all right, just do it – have a go, really. So it's the courage, I think. Yes, I've learned courage.

AC: At Winedale, each role has something to teach the student who plays it. Can you tell me something that Lear has taught you?

MR: Ostensibly, *Lear* is about a king losing his kingdom, losing it to two of his daughters and to his own vanity. But that kingdom is anybody's kingdom, anybody who is aging and facing loss. So the play is actually about all of us. An ex-Winedaler, Rob Matney, was here last weekend and saw *Lear*. He wrote to me, saying that the play made him consider the loss of his own kingdom at some point. Eventually, we will all have to hand over our power to someone younger than ourselves. The hope is to do it with as much decency and equanimity as you can – otherwise you are going to get in trouble. So that whole aging process has been a rather unpleasant learning curve this summer. At the moment *Lear* is very difficult for me. When you work on it out here, it is so intense and you have no perspective. So I don't know yet what else I'm learning except that it is going to be fun one day. But at the moment, it is just terrifying. They all think that I'm not nervous, and I say, "Are you kidding?"

AC: What do you like about playing *Lear*?

MR: The last few years I've become really interested in Shakespeare's use of poetry and the complexity of iambic pentameter. *Lear* is the most adventurous and dangerous use of iambic pentameter – there are very few regular lines. It breaks up all over the place. I couldn't really have handled that breakup without having better understood the basic element: the iambic line. I've been learning about that for the past couple of years, and now I am getting to put it to the test. I'm finding that I can actually handle the verse. I can't yet get the age, but I can handle the verse. And it's tremendous. To be able to speak 800 lines of wonderful poetry – it's magnificent stuff. And in such a small space. I love the barn – it's fantastic.

AC: When you describe Winedale to friends back home, are there any recurring words or descriptions that pop up?

MR: Yes, "magical" is a word I use a lot. "Idyllic." "Hot." "Isolated." But I love it. I say, "Just imagine playing Shakespeare in an open-sided barn for the summer, and people are having picnics under the pecan trees."

AC: Do you think you'll stay in Texas for long?

MR: No, I'm going home next year. I never meant to stay longer than a year, but I love Austin. I've made some very good friends here. We shall see. ■



Radford's Lear cradles his dead daughter Cordelia (Annalee Sweet) in the play's final act.

I've never done anything like this. It's a very intense experience, isn't it? Certainly in the first week I wasn't sure it was the right choice. It was very alienating, a culture shock – you know, singing songs before breakfast. Totally immersing yourself, never being alone for a moment, making your own costumes, your own props – it's tough. But now I'm into it. – Matthew Radford

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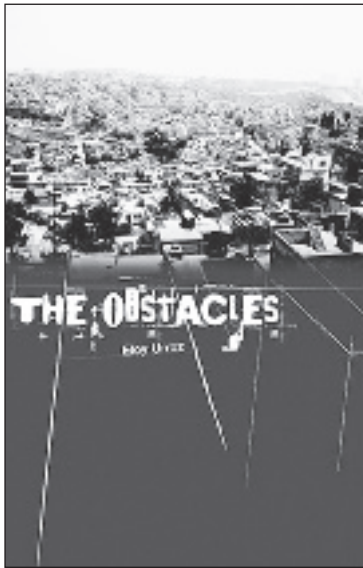
THE OBSTACLES

by Eloy Urroz

Dalkey Archive Press, 350 pp., \$13.95 (paper)

In 1996, when this debut novel was initially published, Mexican author Eloy Urroz was one of five writers who issued the rather provocative *Crack Manifesto* that declared literary independence from a Latin American tradition leaning heavily on magical realism. This collective of heady young writers wanted to explore and expand the possibilities of fiction, vowing to create more complex work – often associated with the likes of Borges and Julio Cortazar – in hopes of laying the groundwork for a new movement. Appearing in English for the first time, *The Obstacles* is clearly a shot across the bow. Urroz weaves a labyrinth of interconnected narratives involving two teenage writers, one living in Mexico City and the other in a small coastal town in Baja California. In alternating chapters, we follow urbanite Ricardo and his longing for a neighbor girl, while his counterpart to the north, the orphan Elias, obsesses over a local prostitute. Each struggles with a love that is unattainable and accounts for but a pair of the “obstacles” to love that permeate the book from a variety of angles. And while the all-too-lengthy pontifications over love and its excesses are a unifying element of sorts, it is the complicated, nonlinear unfolding of the story that is so impressive. Is it one writer creating all the other characters? Or, is the writer creating one character and reading the publications of another? Perhaps both writers are actually characters in each other’s tale? What happens when the two writers finally meet? And what about this town of Las Remoras? The reader is continually struggling with reality, plot twists, dreams, and the intermingling of them all. The complete story is eventually laid out with the help of five different narrators, each with an essential part to tell and each nursing an inevitable broken heart. All the various strands come together surprisingly well, perhaps even a bit too neatly in light of all the elements involved. Urroz cites the works of Vargas Llosa and Cervantes as major inspirations for this type of complex storytelling. In the ensuing decade since this impressive debut appeared, he has written several other novels. If they are as compelling and audacious as this one, Urroz is a voice to seek out.

– Jay Trachtenberg



MY DIRTY LITTLE BOOK OF STOLEN TIME

by Liz Jensen

Bloomsbury, 305 pp., \$23.95

It must be hard to come up with a new conceit for a novel at this late moment in literary history. Liz Jensen is giving it the old college try, however, with her sixth, *My Dirty Little Book of Stolen Time*. Picking up where Mark Twain, Lewis Carroll, and H.G. Wells left off, Jensen adds a feminine voice to the dis-course of time travel by transporting Charlotte Schleswig, a shrewd 19th-century Copenhagen prostitute, to modern-day London, where “even the Mongolians have heard of Johnny Depp!”

It’s a clever enough gimmick, although we’ve seen it before on the page and screen (one recalls Brendan Fraser’s exclamations over “Negroes!” in the film *Blast From the Past*). Jensen’s Charlotte is hardly a naïf, though; rather, she is misanthropic, opportunistic, and, at the novel’s outset, brazenly lacking in self-awareness. She has convinced herself that she is the daughter of royalty deposited at an orphanage and “adopted” by Fru Schleswig, who is depicted as a mouth-breathing, vacuous glutton. Her delusion is transparent, and there is nothing charming about her misanthropy. When she and her mother are hired to clean the mansion of the imperious and secretive Fru Krak, who may or may not have murdered her husband, their lives change forever – not because of the added income, but because of the abandoned time machine in the basement.

Charlotte is forced to rely on her scrap and opportunism when she lands in London and discovers the fascinating and confusing world of beeping mobiles and flavored condoms, not to mention the love of her life, Fergus. There is, of course, no small measure of crises and escapades, modeled as it is on the 19th-century adventure novel. Charlotte’s voice is wry and true to the time period in which she was born, and the bits of modern slang thrown in add a bit of sly humor to the mix. However, the artifice grates before too long, and the reader wishes Jensen would dispense with the ampersands and just write the word “and” already. The conceit is just too precious to be truly enjoyable, despite the presence of a heroine who is anything but a lady.

– Melanie Haupt



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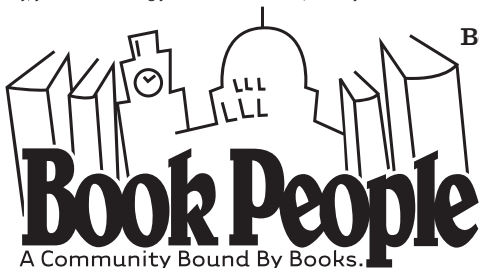
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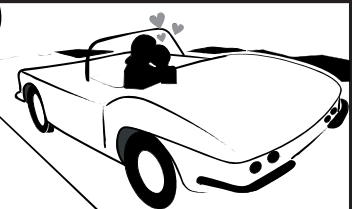
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AFTER A FASHION

BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

NONBREEDER Among the many charming names I've been called in my life, I can now delightfully add "nonbreeder." A devoted reader took offense to my mention of an experience at **Nuevo Leon** where a couple let their large number of ill-behaved children run rampant, screaming and crawling under the tables of other diners. Addressing me as a non-breeder (as if we were discussing livestock), **Devoted Reader** claims to work at a fine-dining establishment where the behavior of children like that is permitted. Sorry, DR, I have been to every fine dining establishment in this city, and there is not a single one that would allow children to run rampant ... unless DR's definition of fine dining includes **Taco Bell**. As for being a nonbreeder, it's instances like the one at Nuevo Leon that make me proud of being that. Smug, even.

GREAT SERVICE? The spate of ads announcing the change of name from **Diamond Shamrock** to **Valero** promises the "same great service." I regularly stop at the Diamond Shamrock/Valero station on Cesar Chavez and Tillery and have indeed received great service on many occasions. But not on a recent visit. Picking up two 2-liter bottles of **Diet Pepsi**, which are advertised in several places in the store at two for \$2, cashier **Roger** scans them and they come up at \$2.22 plus tax, bringing them to \$2.40. I questioned the total, pointing out the sign on

the door, on the display rack, *and* at the register, which said they were two for \$2. Roger looks at me blankly saying, "That's not what they're ringing up at." "But, Roger," I said, "You know that's not the correct price." He said he *knew* that, but *that's* what they were ringing up at, and there was nothing he could do about it. "*Nothing*, Roger? Is it all right with you to knowingly overcharge your customers?" He got snippy with me and said, "Do you want them or not?" "Well, yes, Roger, I do want them – that's why I came here – but I want them at the advertised price." He shrugged his shoulders and said, "Then I can't help you." I asked for the manager, but there was not one on premises. Roger offered me the manager's phone number, which I then called from my cell phone. The manager, **Mario**, answered, and I explained the situation. He was very polite and understanding and remarked that the products were indeed two for \$2. He said they should be totaling \$2 plus 17 cents tax. I agreed, and he asked to speak to Roger, apparently telling Roger to override the price and enter the correct one. I took the phone back and thanked Mario. Then Roger rang the products up at \$2.17 plus tax, totaling \$2.35. "Um. Roger?" I queried. "Do you think that this is now the correct price?" "That's what the manager told me to ring them up as. So it's \$2.17 plus tax. \$2.17 is the subtotal." "Roger, the bottles are two for \$2. With tax they come to \$2.17. Not \$2.17



Former local fashion editor Sarah Lewis returns to Austin as the in-story stylist for Anthropologie.

of me, he relented to enter \$2, and the total came up correctly to be \$2.17. I paid and left. A small savings, to be sure, but a victory on principle alone. When we are paying a fortune to fill up our gas tanks, and the oil companies are crowing over record profits, I'll be damned if I'm going to give them a single cent more.

HIPPEST? A press release from **Yellow Tape Construction Co.** says that "as part of our quest to be the hippest theatre company on the planet, Yellow Tape has taken the first step into the fashion industry" by announcing a new weekly column, "**Fashion Fridays**," by their frequent costume designer **Kendra Williams**. I don't know Ms. Williams' work, but surely a theatre company trying to be the hippest theatre company on the planet can find a more original name than Fashion Fridays. Radio DJ **Miss Kitty** and I used that name for a very lengthy period when she was the hostess with the mostest on the late-lamented **Mega 93.3FM**. It was a name later co-opted by **News 8's** former fashion reporter **Cheryl Bishop**, and, currently, **Mix 94.7FM**, in association with **Tribeza** magazine, has its own Fashion Fridays. Hopefully the fashion that Ms. Williams covers will be more original, but see for yourself at www.yellowtapecc.blogspot.com/2006/07/fashion-friday-rock-my-frock_14.html.

Write to our Style Avatar with your related events, news, and hautey bits: style@austinchronicle.com or PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765 or 458-6910 (fax).



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HEAT: AN AMATEUR’S ADVENTURES AS KITCHEN SLAVE, LINE COOK, PASTA-MAKER, AND APPRENTICE TO A DANTE-QUOTING BUTCHER IN TUSCANY

by Bill Buford
Knopf, 328 pp., \$25.95

Heat began as an article Bill Buford had done for the 2002 *New Yorker* Food issue. The theme was to describe what it was really like working in a professional kitchen and how a professional chef’s devotion to his craft differs from that of the amateur chef. Buford convinced Mario Batali to let him work in the kitchen at Batali’s three-star Babbo Ristorante, starting as a prep “kitchen bitch” and ending up on the line as an accepted member of the team: an accomplished professional chef.

After a year in the Babbo trenches, he retraces Batali’s steps to Borgo Capanne to learn how to make handmade pasta from Betta, who was Batali’s first mentor during his three-year quest for the secrets of Italian cuisine. In England, he interviews Batali’s culinary muse, the eccentric genius Marco Pierre White. Buford returns to Italy to study the art of Tuscan butchery under Dario Cecchini and the “Maestro.”

Along the way, Buford presents the first in-depth portrait of Batali: a celebrated chef and Italian food expert capable of superhuman personal excess and legendary demonic despotism; a shrewd businessman, a generous friend, and the slave driver you’d loyally defend to your death.

We can feel the passion that drives a man to be the best butcher in the world or to produce perfect handmade pasta for decades. We come to understand, through Buford’s missteps, how the true chef develops that mystical sixth sense of “kitchen awareness”: the ability to function at the highest culinary levels with little conscious thought.

Heat is ultimately about the pleasures (and pains) of what it’s like to obsessively produce high-quality food in a professional environment; it profiles the kind of person it takes to do it every day and why it’s so important to them. Buford tells his tale in a revelatory and hilarious way that makes it a thrill for the reader: You feel like you’re a part of that obsession. With apologies to Anthony Bourdain, *Heat* is the intellectual’s *Kitchen Confidential*, a book about the business that you’ll read with relish. – M.V.



food

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47 RESTAURANT ROULETTE

MT SUPERMARKET

7601 N. Lamar,
454-4804/4805
Daily, 9am-9pm
www.mtsupermarket.com

With the opening of the new MT Supermarket, Austin has finally entered the 21st century when it comes to Asian culinary supplies. The original My Thanh Market’s 15,000-square-foot store opened in 1984, and for many it was the go-to market for all things Asian. Now, there is a newer and much larger 55,000-square-foot version in the spanking new Chinatown Center near the southeast corner of Braker and Lamar. It’s so much more than its former self: The product lines and fresh items have expanded exponentially, and in the new store, there’s plenty of room to actually peruse the shelves in detail.

It’s close to the size and complexity of some of the larger markets found in Houston, and you’ll be amazed with the diversity of products. When you enter and head to the right, you’ll see the massive produce section covering one wing: 20 different kinds of Asian greens, fresh lychee and jackfruit, and the like. There is a “salad bar” for fresh bulk tofu, bamboo, pickled veggies, and such shredded salad items as jellyfish and wheat gluten.

You’ll find an astonishing variety of sea critters housed in six huge, open-chest style freezers, each holding 25 to 30 bins of individual products. That doesn’t count freezers holding only shrimp, squid, and cuttlefish, the huge fresh fish section, or the live tanks of tilapia, Dungeness crab, lobsters, catfish, and clams.

Need fresh, boneless chicken feet, duck heads, pig ears, or six different types of fresh fishballs? Not a problem! All of the bottled and canned good lines have expanded. The housewares section now comprises three aisles. For the vegans out there, there is a whole section of mock foods made from tempeh, wheat gluten, and soy.

When you get ready to check out, there are 12 cashier spaces, two of which are express lines, with plenty of room for queuing. The new MT is a vast improvement over My Thanh, and a perfect way to spend a few hours wandering, shopping in slack-jawed amazement.

– Mick Vann

EVENT MENU: JULY 26-AUG. 3

The **Chautauqua River School** is a local nonprofit that provides on-the-water recreation and education for at-risk youth in Austin and sells excellent Chautauqua River School Smoked Salmon at the Sunset Valley Farmers’ Market to fund some of their programs. This weekend, the group celebrates a new name, the **Texas River School**, and a new home at the Texas Rowing Center with a family-fun-filled benefit at the **Broken Spoke** (3201 S. Lamar, 442-6189). The event will include a silent auction during sets by **Bill Oliver & the Otter Space Band**, **Karen Mal**, **Lee Edwards** and **Claudia Voyles**, plus the headlining performance (8pm) of **Dale Watson & His Lone Stars**. Admission is \$20 at the door, and children younger than 12 get in free; 6pm to midnight, Wednesday, Aug. 2.



PHOTOS BY COURTNEY CHAVANELL

FOOD-O-FILE

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

CHEF NEWS

Two chef instructors at the **Texas Culinary Academy** (11400 Burnet Rd., 837-2665, www.tca.org) recently completed the career evaluation and written testing necessary to be awarded important credentials conferred by the professional culinary organizations to which they belong. Chef **Rebecca Barsch Fischer** has earned the designation of Certified Executive Chef from the American Culinary Federation, and chef **Edna Lynn Porter** has earned the designation of Certified Culinary Professional from the International Association of Culinary Professionals. Congratulations to them both... Owners of the **Blair House Inn** (100 W. Spoke Hill in Wimberley, 877/549-5450, www.blairhouseinn.com) have announced the hiring of **Matt Malowski** as executive chef and cooking instructor. Malowski, a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America, has worked in upscale restaurants and hotels across the United States and Europe. He was most recently executive chef at the new **Whole Foods Market** flagship store in downtown Austin. Blair House owners **Vickie** and **Mike Schneider** expect Malowski to invest his cooking and teaching expertise in the expansion of their popular recreational cooking classes and Saturday-night dinners. Check out his menus and cooking-class schedules on their Web site... Chef/owner **Tyson Cole** of **Uchi** (801 S. Lamar, 916-4808) e-mailed to let us know that he has added two accomplished local chefs to his large, diverse cooking staff. The sophisticated dessert creations of **Phillip Speer** will now complement meals at Uchi, and **Deegan McClung** is the new chef de cuisine at the nationally recognized eatery.

MORE FOOD TV

Just like many other cable channels, the Food Network is rolling out new programming for our summer entertainment, and Central Texans are getting their fair share of exposure. **Jamie** and **Bobby Deen** have taken off without mom, **Paula**, in a program that is part travelogue and part product-promotion called *Road Tasted* (Tuesdays, 9pm). The good ol’ Southern boys drive cross-country sampling distinctive regional food products and telling the audience how to get them. They came through Central Texas this spring, making pies with **Bud Royer** at **Royer’s Round Top Cafe** (www.royersroundtopcafe.com) and whipping up some chili-spiked Aztec brownies with Austin baker **Mary Louise Butters** (www.buttersbrownies.com). When it came time for barbecue, the Deens dropped in on **Skeeter Miller** and company at the **County Line** (www.airribs.com) and chowed down on some of those gargantuan beef ribs. We’ll try to keep you posted on when this program is scheduled to air... Another new cooking-competition show features the ubiquitous **Bobby Flay** in something called *Throwdown* (Thursdays, 9pm). Here, the guests on the show were recruited by an ad on the Food Network Web site that encouraged respondents to write in describing their “culinary claim to fame,” in hopes of becoming the subject of a Food Network profile. Thirteen unsuspecting cooks were chosen, and production crews showed up to shoot them preparing their particular specialty, such as chowder, wedding cakes, chili, or jerk chicken. At some point during the shoot, Flay arrives out of nowhere in a black SUV and, much to the guests’ surprise, challenges them to a “throwdown” wherein he’ll compete with them, preparing his version of their specialty. The half-hour programs end up being as much or more about Flay and his own preparation for the “throwdowns” as they are about the guest cooks, which I found disappointing. A segment featuring Terlingua International Chili Championship competition cook **Cindy Reed Wilkins** (www.cinchili.com) of Houston is scheduled to air on Thursday, July 26. Austin cookbook and children’s book author **Angela Shelf Medearis** prepared jerk chicken with Flay and received two swanky new Weber grills used in the program when it was over. The episode will air Aug. 10, and we’ll bet Flay got more than he bargained for with the sassy, media-savvy Medearis. She should end up with her own show.

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www.sampaioresrestaurant.com

After a fantastic trip to Brazil in 2004, I haven't abandoned my almost obsessive quest for everything Brazilian. I was eager to check out Sampaio's to see if this newcomer offered a little taste of things Brazilian that I have *saudade* (longing) for. The inviting space on Burnet Road is classy and modern yet comfortable and relaxed with a neighborhood restaurant feel. The blue, glass-tile column in the center of the dining room divides the space from the bar, and with the green-and-yellow ceiling tones, it creates a stylized Brazilian-flaglike interior. Cool Brazilian rhythms permeate the atmosphere, and the tropical patio is inviting even on a hot day, especially to enjoy a few tropical drinks after work.

The restaurant's distinctive cocktails are well-prepared and refreshing. A Brazilian Mojito (\$7), made with rum, *cachaça*, fresh mint, and lime served in a tall glass topped with club soda, is the perfect foil for the summer heat. The frozen *caipirinhas* feature flavors like guava and passion fruit. The wine list is not extensive, but it is well stocked with inexpensive yet good bottles with an emphasis on Argentina, Chile, Spain, and Portugal.

While the food is not strictly "authentic" Brazilian, it is still the closest that Austin has to the real deal. Since our first lunch visit was during a Brazil game in the World Cup, the place was full of effusive people clad in yellow and green. The cooks had been engrossed in the festivities, and they had not prepared a lunch special. Regardless of the distractions, what we ordered off the menu was very good. We started with Croquete de Salmão (\$10), smoked salmon cakes topped with mango relish. We also sampled the Bobó de Camarão (\$12.95), jumbo shrimp in a *dendê* (palm oil) and yucca sauce with tomatoes and bell peppers, served atop white rice. Although it was different from what I had had in Brazil, it was nevertheless delicious. However, the Churrasco Misto (\$16) disappointed. The menu described two skewers of beef, chicken, sausage, and bell peppers served with a tomato vinaigrette and Chimichurri. Instead, they were drizzled with a creamy sauce and a tiny drop of Chimichurri on the side. Here, I would rather see a more traditional Brazilian churrasco,



JOHN ANDERSON

with good cuts of beef that showcase the natural flavor of the meat, rather than small mixed skewers. The Mexido de Galinha (\$8.95) was a light dish of chicken sautéed with crimini mushrooms, corn kernels, and fresh cilantro tossed with white rice and topped with succulent fried plantain slices. The star of the lunch menu was the Pamonha de Porco (\$11), perhaps best described as a "tamal" made with mashed yucca wrapped in a banana leaf and filled with the most tender, flavorful shredded pork, sauced with a hint of coconut curry. It is worth noting that this dish, as well as their feijoada, is not available at dinnertime. And, although the prices seem high for lunch, they are the same price – and size – at dinner.

The dinner menu holds its own surprises. We started with a tasty appetizer that we had tried in Brazil, Coxina de Frango (\$7), consisting of spiced shredded chicken wrapped in mashed yucca and fried until golden. The *malagueta* pepper vinaigrette for dipping was fabulously spicy. We also enjoyed the Conchas ao Forno (\$10), baked clams on the half shell topped with crispy bacon, peppers, and lemon butter. And the Salada da Casa (\$5.50) is one of the nicest salads I've had recently, not only in its appealing presentation, but the zesty flavors. (I am a huge fan of hearts of palm.)

For our entrées, we tried three outstanding seafood dishes. The Camarão ao Molho de Cachaça (\$18) features jumbo shrimp in a garlic and *cachaça* butter sauce; the Peixe Assado (\$18) is grilled snapper with an Amazonian marinade and sautéed vegetables; and the Peixada Nordestina (\$19), full of shrimp, mussels, and salmon in a spicy coconut broth, reminded me of the *moquecas* and *ensopados* I had during my wonderful stay in Bahia. Although I am a big fan of Milanesa (\$12), it was the weakest entrée at Sampaio's. The Italian tomato sauce and melted-cheese topping and side of white rice were nothing special.

Sampaio's shone again at dessert time. The Chocolate Flan (\$7) with fresh strawberry purée was silky and creamy and everything I had hoped for. For the serious chocoholic, the dense Chocolate Mousse Cake (\$7) was chock-full of chocolatey goodness. And, if a full dessert is too much, one can satisfy the sweet tooth with a Batida de Coco (\$7), a classic Brazilian cocktail made with *cachaça*, coconut cream, and evaporated milk.

Overall, I enjoy Sampaio's. The atmosphere and cocktails are great, the service is friendly (if a little inexperienced at times), and most of the dishes are delicious and plentiful for the price. I'd like to see Sampaio's go for more "authentic Brazilian" without fear. I think Austin is ready for the real deal.

– Claudia Alarcón

MISUNG 888
911 W. Anderson #114, 302-5433
Monday-Saturday, 5pm-2am

The old 888 Cafe (not to be confused with 888 Vietnamese on Oltorf), now Misung 888, has gone traditional Korean. Owner Misung Park's nephew tried a sushi/bento-box menu for a while, and from reports we received, it was excellent, but we couldn't get it on the schedule before it had vanished. The new traditional Korean menu works well for us. You'll see dishes here that are unavailable elsewhere in town.

The restaurant interior has been redone, with dark wood covering the walls and a line of fairly private booths lining one side, the opposite wall covered with smoked mirror tiles to create a larger sense of scale. It now seats about 50 in a cozy atmosphere. Service is pleasant and efficient with no language problems for non-Korean speakers.

The menu contains about 28 different offerings, all of which come with the traditional Korean panchan accompanying items.

The leadoff menu item, and the most popular according to staff, is the Spicy Pork Bone Soup With Potato (\$16.99 to \$32.99, depending on the size ordered). We saw a family feasting on it with glee, but it was too hot for us to eat soup that day. We chose instead BBQ Short Ribs (\$16.99), Fried Pork and Kim Chee With Tofu (\$12.99), and Fried Korean Style Pork Sausage (\$14.99). All came with excellent panchan tidbits: a dish of sliced squid stewed with garlic and red pepper; a dish of dried tiny anchovies stir-fried with garlic, salt, scallion, sugar, and chile (addictively good!); a very light and chunky blend of seasoned potato with scallion; and a delightful, fresh kim chee.

The BBQ short ribs arrive on a bed of sliced onion, caramelizing on a cast-iron platter, the dish presented as a large mound of thinly sliced beef-rib meat. The meat is marinated and deliciously sweet, garlicky, and piquant. It is so tender that it literally melts in your mouth, and the portion is large enough for two.

The stir-fry of pork loin slices with kim chee and tofu arrives as a bed of half-inch thick slices of medium tofu, covered with the stir-fry of thinly sliced pork, pickled Napa cabbage, garlic, red pepper, and scallion. It is delicious: salty and tangy from the cabbage, mildly spicy from the pepper, nutty from the tofu.

The fried sausage is more like *jap chae*: a bed of stir-fried mung-bean noodles with scallion, zucchini and carrot slices, garlic, and Napa cabbage in a soy-based sauce. Tossed with it are slices of *soon-dae* sausage, made from rice, garlic, seasonings, and blood: the Korean version of *butifarra* sausage, if you will. We ordered it based on seeing another table chowing down on it with fervor. I can now say I've eaten it, but blood isn't one of my favorites. It did season the noodles perfectly; we ate those and relished them, but most of the sausage remained uneaten. Our fault, not theirs.

There are several dishes on our short list for the next visit: Grilled Freshwater Eel (\$19.99), Spicy Snail With Dried Squid (\$14.99), a spicy stir-fry of Octopus With Vegetables (\$14.99), and Sliced Fish Cake Soup (\$12.99). Portions at Misung 888 are ample, and the taste is big and hearty. The staff is friendly and helpful. The prices might seem a little high at first glance, but the quality of the panchan more than makes up for it. We loved our visit and will return.

– Mick Vann



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DOWNTOWN

AMERICAN CAFE: 15TH STREET CAFE Located inside the DoubleTree Guest Suites, the cafe serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily. Try the Sunday buffet. **303 W. 15th, 478-7000 \$\$\$**

FINE DINING: ANCHO'S RESTAURANT This pleasant dining room in the atrium of the Omni Hotel offers a Southwestern menu and a dynamite Sunday brunch with waffle and omelet stations. **701 Brazos, 320-5858 \$\$\$**

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: ARTURO'S BAKERY & CAFE Nestled between El Mercado and Galería Sin Fronteras, you'll find Mexican fare, sandwiches, burgers, smoothies ... and knockwurst! **314 W. 17th, 469-0380 \$**

STEAKHOUSE: AUSTIN LAND & CATTLE CO. Elegant ambience and service, with first-rate steaks at quite reasonable prices. Particular care is taken with the sides, making for a complete experience. Excellent wine list. **1205 N. Lamar, 472-1813 \$\$\$**

FINE DINING: CAFE AT THE FOUR SEASONS An excellent wine list with more than 200 offerings, a high level of service, and an elegant room add up to a sublime dining experience. **98 San Jacinto, 478-4500 \$\$\$\$**

FINE DINING, ITALIAN: CARMELO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT Offers an upscale Italian and continental menu in a beautifully restored downtown railroad hotel. Live accordion music five nights a week. **504 E. Fifth, 477-7497 \$\$\$**

BARBECUE: HOUSE PARK BAR-B-Q Owner Joe Sullivan's chopped beef and pork roast are required courses for lots of students at ACC's Rio Grande campus and many denizens of the nearby legal ghetto. **900 W. 12th, 472-9621 \$\$**

AMERICAN CAFE: IRON CACTUS MEXICAN GRILL & MARGARITA BAR In addition to stacked enchiladas, the extensive menu offers hearty steak, chicken, and shrimp dishes treated with combinations of Southwestern and Interior Mexican spices. **606 Trinity, 472-9240 \$\$\$**

FINE DINING, PACIFIC RIM: KENICHI Offering freshly ground wasabi root, more than 20 different types of sake, and Kobe beef carpaccio, the trendiness of its clientele is matched equally by its decor. **419 Colorado, 320-8883 \$\$\$**

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: KT'S DELI Housed in the bottom floor of the William P. Clements Jr. Building, this cafeteria-style eatery boasts good food and low prices. Open for breakfast and lunch. **300 W. 15th, 495-9313 \$**

FINE DINING, ITALIAN: LA TRAVIATA Fresh and seasonal ingredients, light sauces, and a judicious use of herbs and aromatics make this spot popular for lunch and dinner. **314 Congress, 479-8131 \$\$\$**

JUICE BAR, VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: LIVING FOODS BAR AT WHOLE FOODS Über-healthy living-foods bar and "deli" case offering Austin's largest selection of all-raw entrees, juices, smoothies, desserts, and salads. **525 N. Lamar, 476-1206 \$\$**

AMERICAN CAFE: MIKE'S PUB Climb the winding staircase and indulge in one of Mike's legendary greasy hamburgers. Loyal clients swear they are the best. **108 E. Seventh, 479-6424 \$**

EAST

TEX-MEX: AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Spacious, no-frills Austin institution that serves classic Tex-Mex breakfasts, lunches, and dinners daily. Look for the fresh homemade tortillas, crispy tacos, and slow-roasted beef ribs. **5405 N. I-35, Capital Plaza, 458-2531 \$**

AMERICAN CAFE: ARKIE'S GRILL This cafe has been around since 1948, maintaining the same super homestyle menus and hospitable spirit. Thursday's turkey and dressing special is highly recommended. **4827 E. Cesar Chavez, 385-2986 \$**

TEX-MEX: ARTURO'S TAQUERIA This brightly painted spot still offers seafood specials on weekends. The soul of the sea is evident in their atmosphere and menu. **7210 Cameron, 451-5318 \$\$**

BARBECUE: AUSTIN'S BARBECUE What a feast. Ethereal pancakes, fluffy omelettes, homemade hashbrowns, and ancho-chile-spiked barbecue sauce compete with really wonderful hamburgers. Try the Chorizo Burger. Seriously. **6002 Burleson, 382-2105 \$**

TEX-MEX: BEJUCO'S RESTAURANT Cabrito, enchiladas, tamales, and chile rellenos. Not open 24 hours, like the sign outside says, but you can get three squares a day there. **2711-A E. Cesar Chavez, 476-7878 \$\$\$**

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: CAFE MUNDI This Eastside boho combo coffeehouse/art space/gift shop serves up sandwiches, salads, and muffins, plus waffles on weekends! **1704 E. Fifth #100, 236-8634 \$**

INTERIOR MEXICAN, TEX-MEX: EL CHILE CAFE Y CANTINA The bill of fare features some Tex-Mex dishes, several Interior specialties, and a number of good vegetarian options. **1809 Manor Rd., 457-9900 \$\$\$**

AMERICAN CAFE: GO GO GOURMET An inviting selection of soups, salads, sandwiches, entrées, and side dishes awaits you. Eat in or take out. **3505 N. I-35, 542-9860 \$\$\$**

TEX-MEX: JUAN IN A MILLION Find one of our favorite "heart attack" breakfasts: gorditas with chorizo and fried eggs slathered with chile con queso. Arteries may harden around the room, but no one seems to care. **2300 E. Cesar Chavez, 472-3872 \$\$\$**

INTERIOR MEXICAN: LAS PALMAS The food is honest and made with care, almost as if someone's grandmother prepared it at home. **1209 E. Seventh, 457-4944 \$\$\$**

TEX-MEX: NUEVO LEON Cavernous, friendly restaurant offering cheap combination plates. Decorated almost exclusively in pink and green, adorned with Texas-shaped mirrors and many Christmas lights. Serious date potential. **1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097 \$\$\$**

BARBECUE: SAM'S BBQ Late-night hours make this spot popular with jazz musicians, but the great barbecue keeps folks of every occupation coming back any time of the day or night. **2000 E. 12th, 478-0378 \$**

AMERICAN CAFE: STAR SEEDS CAFE This institution has been around since the Armadillo days, when hungry cosmic cowboys restored themselves at its booths. Breakfast selections galore. **3101 N. I-35, 478-7107 \$**

JAPANESE: SUSHI JAPON The sushi is fresh and professionally prepared, and the draft Ichiban is perfect with it. Don't leave without tasting the black cod and the yellowtail. **6801 N. I-35, 323-6663 \$\$\$**

LAKE

PIZZA: AUSTIN'S PIZZA This upstart takes aim at the big delivery chains by offering large two-topping pizzas – with gourmet ingredients and good crust – for \$9.99. **7301 N. RR 620, 795-8888 \$\$\$**

AMERICAN CAFE: POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL A place with music mojo and damn fine burgers. This place channels old Austin music treasures like Soap Creek and Checkered Flag. Don't miss the Poodle burger. **22308 Hwy. 71 W., 264-0318 \$**

BARBECUE: R.O.'S OUTPOST BBQ A complete barbecue menu is available, as well as chicken-fried steak and fried quail. No matter how much you eat, you must save room for the pies and cobbiers. **22112 Hwy. 71 W. #2, 264-1169 \$\$\$**

THAI: THAI SPICE CAFE This menu offers fresh, fast, reliable versions of traditional Thai fare. **1310 RR 620 S., 263-2221 \$\$\$**

NORTH

INDIAN: BOMBAY BISTRO The new Raj in town. Everything we've had has been amazingly good: complex and richly layered sauces and superb breads from a large and unique menu. **10710 Research Blvd. #126, 342-2252 \$\$\$**

ITALIAN: CARRABBA'S ITALIAN GRILL Order from the pasta bar, sample one of the wood-fired pizzas, or choose a grilled specialty. The menu also includes the requisite manicotti, lasagna, and spaghetti options. **11590 Research Blvd., 345-8232 \$\$\$**

PAN-ASIAN: CLAY POT BUFFET Austin's first totally hot-pot restaurant, loaded with fresh seafood and vegetables, just waiting to be plunged into the savory stock on top of your table. It's an ideal dining experience for a group of friends. Interactive hands-on dining at its best. **13000 N. I-35, Building 12, #200, 833-8837 \$\$\$**

BARBECUE: MANN'S SMOKEHOUSE BAR-B-QUE Traditional smokehouse values take the cafeteria-style line past a wall-height menu, a rabbit-quick assembly line, and out through a waiting cashier – all in record time. **8624 Research Blvd., 459-5077 \$\$\$**

CHINESE, INDIAN: MASALA WOK Ethnic fusion that offers traditional Indian fare as well as Indo-Chinese dishes: a blend of wok cooking and Indian spices with plenty of vegetarian options. **1100 Center Ridge, 251-9696 \$**

STEAKHOUSE: MESA RANCH STEAKHOUSE Menu heavily weighted toward items from the mesquite grill, expertly prepared. Portions are generous, spicing is robust, and the service is friendly. Don't miss the fried cactus or chicken-fried venison. **8108 Mesa, 853-9480 \$\$\$**

AMERICAN CAFE, FINE DINING: MONICA'S 701 Contemporary American with a decidedly Texas slant, and the dishes encompass the many ethnic influences in the cuisine of the Lone Star State. **701 N. Main, 931-2438 \$\$\$\$**

PIZZA: REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE The drive up Research may be tedious, but Reale's is much closer than the East Coast pizzerias that it accurately approximates. **13450 Research, 335-5115 \$\$\$**

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continued on p.48

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food :: RESTAURANT ROULETTE :: FROM P.47

ITALIAN: ROMANO'S MACARONI GRILL Always consistent and usually crowded, this eclectic Italian restaurant chain offers plenty of pastas and a lively atmosphere. This restaurant is also particularly kid-friendly. 9828 Great Hills Trail, 795-0460 \$\$

AFRICAN: T'S CAFE Go with a small army and safari your way through the menu of tasty and exotic stews, starches, and appetizers. 15608 Springhill #102, 251-4432, 913-1095 \$\$

NORTH CENTRAL

AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN: AFIA CAFE Not for the gastronomically timid, this restaurant makes few concessions to American tastes. Ogbono, moi-moi, and egusi are among the authentic West African culinary jewels. 6929 Airport, 450-1101 \$\$

CHAIN, DELIVERY, PIZZA: COZZOLI'S PIZZA Specializes in the East Coast style of soft and gooey thin-crust pizza that tastes best when you're standing on a street corner. 6001 Airport, 458-2167 \$\$

BURGER JOINT: DAN'S HAMBURGERS One of several burger outlets operated by Austin's Hamburger King, Dan Junk, whose trademark has always been good, fresh food and friendly service. 5602 N. Lamar, 459-3239 \$

ITALIAN: FLYING TOMATO PIZZA KITCHEN Offers pizza lovers more than 40 ingredients for mixing and matching to make the perfect pizza. Only open for dinner. 1600 W. 35th, 419-1900 \$\$

JAPANESE, KOREAN: KIMCHI SUSHI Simply decorated Lincoln Village sushi bar also features a menu of Korean favorites. 6406 N. Lamar #156, 821-0396 \$\$

VIETNAMESE: LE SOLEIL One of the original Sunflower folks brings us a similar menu with a few new tweaks. Bottom line: It's good and dependable, and it's a fave of Viet families 9616 N. Lamar #156, 821-0396 \$\$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: NEWORLEDEL This concept cafe stresses customer comfort, and that starts with offering lunch for less than \$5. 4101 Guadalupe, 451-7170 \$

INTERIOR MEXICAN: OAXACAN TAMALES Hands-down the finest and most flavorful Interior Mexican food in Austin for the portion and the price. Delicious, authentic rotating specials are \$4.98 for lunch, \$6.45 for dinner. Don't miss the banana-leaf-wrapped tamale. 1300 W. Anderson, 289-9262 \$

BARBECUE, BURGER JOINT: THE STALLION GRILL You'll find the traditional country fare here solid, tasty, and affordable. Don't miss the homemade rolls and desserts. 5201 Airport, 380-9433 \$

THAI: THAI VILLAGE Enjoy a classy but still affordable meal and very artful food presentation. 6406 N. Lamar, 452-3888 \$\$

SOUTH

VIETNAMESE: 888 VIETNAMESE RESTAURANT You'll find traditional dishes seldom seen elsewhere and Asian fusion creations with Thai and Chinese influence. Delicious and inexpensive. BYOB. 2400 E. Oltorf Ste. 1A, 448-4722 \$

INTERIOR MEXICAN, TEX-MEX: ABUELO'S MEXICAN FOOD EMBASSY Lubbock-based chain with both traditional Tex-Mex and adventurous Interior Mexican offerings. 2901 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 306-0857 \$\$

TEX-MEX: AZUL TEQUILA Offers both Tex-Mex dishes and Interior specialties like Albondigas en Chipotle and Enchiladas de Pipian. Go with a crowd, listen to the music, and have some fun. 4211 S. Lamar, 416-9667 \$\$

TEX-MEX: BABY ACAPULCO'S #2 Try this place for great enchiladas and multiple flavored margaritas that should come with warning stickers: "Muy bueno!" 1628 Barton Springs Rd., 474-8774 \$\$

PACIFIC RIM: BISTRO 88 Offerings include some of the more popular Pacific Moon dishes, plus an array of continental meat, poultry, seafood, and vegetarian items blended with ingredients from around the Pacific Rim. 2712 Bee Caves Rd., 328-8888 \$\$\$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: CHANTILLY BAKERY CAFE Try Sandra Ojong's pastries for breakfast (or anytime), and come back for the wonderful sandwich selection at lunchtime. 4032 S. Lamar #200, 916-0404 \$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: GARDEN DISTRICT COFFEE HOUSE The eats are predominantly Cuban, including sweetly rich and delicious coffee drinks and piping hot empanadas. An assortment of grill-pressed sandwiches are offered too, including an extra piggy ham and roast pork. Wi-fi ready. 2810 S. Congress, 462-2473 \$

JAPANESE: MIMOSA CAFE This is not really a sushi restaurant; it's something more akin to a Japanese home-style restaurant. The menu offers everything from salads to sobas to sushi. 1530 Barton Springs Rd., 494-0203 \$\$

BURGER JOINT: SANDY'S FROZEN CUSTARD & ROOT BEER The cool relief of a chocolate-vanilla swirl cone, the old neon sign, not to mention the sinful smell of decades of sublimely greasy burgers transport us back in time. 603 Barton Springs Rd., 478-6322 \$

DELIVERY: THE SOUP PEDDLER The bicycles from this delivery-only soup heaven now service many points north of the river. Two or three varieties are offered weekly. 501 W. Mary, 373-7672 \$

BARBECUE: TEXAS ROADHOUSE Stop by Willie's Corner for ribs that crumble in front of you and then melt in your mouth. Hire a driver. 9300 S. I-35, 282-7427 \$\$

JAPANESE: UCHI The sushi ranges from fresh scallops, tuna, and seafood to negitoro rolls, seaweed, and chicken salad, and all is highly rated. 801 S. Lamar, 916-4808 \$\$\$\$

UT

JAPANESE: BANZAI SUSHI & GRILL Part of a new wave of world-wide fast-food eateries. Tasty, accessible, and inexpensive Japanese food is offered here. 3914 N. Lamar, 323-2151 \$\$

ITALIAN: FINO RESTAURANT, PATIO & BAR From the owners of the popular Asti Trattoria in Hyde Park come influences from Nice to Morocco, Italy to Athens to Valencia, all ably executed by chef Tristan White and his team. 2905 San Gabriel #200, 474-2905 \$\$\$

MIDDLE EASTERN: KISMET CAFE Serving Mediterranean/American cuisine, Philly subs, gyros, and salads. 411 W. 24th, 236-1811 \$\$

CHINESE: THE MAGIC WOK Cheap lunch and affordable dinners that include soup and an egg roll. 2716 1/2 Guadalupe, 474-7770 \$

ITALIAN: PICCOLO ITALIAN CAFE Don't just try them for the variety of house-made pastas and wood-fired pizzas. Try the hot and cold appetizers and the chicken, seafood, and veal entrées. 2828 Rio Grande, 476-5600 \$\$\$

TEX-MEX: TACO SHACK Good, substantial, and cheap Tex-Mex. 2825 Guadalupe, 474-7770 \$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: TEXAS FRENCH BREAD The bright, comfortable dining room is populated with students enjoying Hyde Park Fudge Cake, Hobbit Bread, hearty sandwiches, soups and salads. Great for breakfast. 2900 Rio Grande, 499-0544 \$

THAI: THAI KITCHEN The Drag location of this respected local Thai restaurant chain is popular with student diners - the authentic food is fresh, spicy, and affordable. 3009 Guadalupe, 474-2575 \$\$

MIDDLE EASTERN: TOM'S TABOOLEY The kitchen offers tabbouleh, dolmas, baklava, gourmet coffee, and lots of surprising tidbits for lunch and dinner. Pick up some brined grape leaves to cook with at home. 2928 Guadalupe, 479-7337 \$

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: VEGGIE HEAVEN The menu is heavy on Asian dishes but also offers meat- and dairy-free pastas, sandwiches, and desserts. 1914-A Guadalupe, 457-1013 \$

WEST

MEDITERRANEAN, MIDDLE EASTERN: ALBORZ PERSIAN CUISINE Comfortable and unpretentious, Alborz captures the essentials of Persia's rich and astoundingly varied culinary heritage. The daily lunch buffet is highly recommended. 3300 W. Anderson, 420-2222 \$\$\$

AMERICAN CAFE: CAFE BISTRO AT NORDSTROM The most elegant food at the mall, with a menu strong on ladies-who-lunch fare. Salads and sandwiches are exceptional, but more substantial offerings are there for the asking. Barton Creek Square, 2901 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 691-3500 \$\$\$

CHINESE, JAPANESE: DRAGON GATE BY PHOENIX Austin has so many sushi choices, it sometimes feels like we're living in southwest Japan. Even with all that competition, Dragon Gate's sushi deserves a try for its meticulous attention to the details, especially in the Nigiri and Gunkan-maki Sushi categories. 3801 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 732-7278 \$\$\$

PIZZA: MANGIA CHICAGO STUFFED PIZZA Delectable and deceptively filling pizza at a reasonable cost. Now going cross-cultural with breakfast tacos. 8012 Mesa, 349-2126 \$\$\$

JAPANESE: MUSASHINO SUSHI DOKORO Serving a whopping variety of sushi and a small selection of Japanese appetizers, this restaurant features fine fish and friendly service. 3407 Greystone, 795-8593 \$\$

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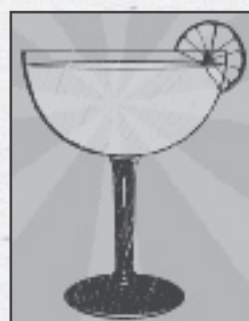
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IN SPACE

Somebody's Watching

When Web content seems dominated by “actual” home-movie footage of man-eating lions and enough potty humor to fill a season of *South Park*, it's easy to get frustrated enough to (gasp) consider reading a book or something. Okay, okay, let's not get too crazy. First, remember that the Internet is your friend. It's made for you and by you and offers billions upon billions upon billions of entertainment options. So it's nice to see smart, funny people doing the legwork for us. *McSweeney's* recently launched another advance in the uphill battle to get an audience for short films: *Wholphin*, a quarterly DVD magazine. Each issue contains a variety of short films, docs, and instructional videos. Film curator and *McSweeney's* editor Brent Hoff explains, “I'm obsessed with people finding weird, beautiful sea creatures like wholphins. We want to similarly find miraculous movies that are out there.” Like the name, the films are indeed both bizarre and cool. Though the Web site (www.wholphindvd.com) lacks some of the fun that comes with the DVD, there are online treats. *AI Gore Documentary*, directed by Spike Jonze, is a particularly engaging and unique portrait, labeled by the site as the “22-minute documentary that might have changed the entire course of the 2000 Presidential Election.” Funny, considering it's only 13 minutes long. Also, Miguel Arteta and Miranda July's *Are You the Favorite Person of Anybody?*, starring John C. Reilly, Mike White, and July, is thought-provoking and bittersweet. And at only four minutes, that's quite an achievement. Highlights from their Web-only programming include the Lynchian *Facechasers* (directed by Gabriel Judet-Weinshel), the endearing music documentary *A Taste of Nate* (Jim McGorman), and the simple yet hilariously subversive music video *Nice Day* (Mad Injection). As they've done with writing, the creators of *McSweeney's* have produced a well-curated and wholly unique outlet for short filmmaking. And speaking of smart, entertaining Web content, check out the failed WB pilot *Nobody's Watching* on YouTube.com. The show's failure to get picked up is yet another sign that there's no room on network television for programming that's actually any good. But due to the pilot's success on YouTube, NBC announced that they commissioned the lead actors to appear in “webisodes” and ordered new scripts for a proposed TV series. — *Toddy Burton*



WholphinDVD.com: more “miraculous movies” than “weird, beautiful sea creatures”



On YouTube.com, a failure that's far from forgotten

DVD WATCH

SHAKESPEARE BEHIND BARS

Shout! Factory, \$19.98

Little-seen, despite a Grand Jury Prize nomination at Sundance in 2005, this well-considered documentary about a Shakespearean troupe at Kentucky's Luther Luckett Correctional Complex gets a fine DVD edition from Rhino spin-off Shout! Factory. The company seems to be expanding its range beyond kitsch and small-screen nostalgia into independent features, and the design of this disc portends well for the effort. Though it lacks subtitles, the disc's three commentary tracks and 12 deleted scenes – royal treatment for a documentary underwritten by the BBC and released in only a handful of theatres – expand upon and enhance the film's fly-on-the-wall revelations about life in prison. As director Hank Rogerson (*Homeland*) follows



the inmate players through a season of *The Tempest*, the Bard's verse helps them grieve their mistakes and rehabilitate themselves. The parole board beckons – but will tragically elude – some of the actors; two others end up in solitary, which provides an apt lesson in prison justice. All of the guys are model inmates and repentant criminals, but they're also murderers, cop killers, and drug dealers – one

is a child molester undergoing four-stage rehab. Structured like a classic backstage story, the film offers an Ariel named Bulldog, a Prospero who's serving time for dropping a hair dryer into his pregnant wife's bath, and a Caliban known in the yard as Big G. Curt Tofteland, the troupe's volunteer director, drills the inmates in diction and dramaturgy – at one point dismissing a passionless soliloquy with “Words ... words ... words!” – and helps them discover the play's themes of redemption and forgiveness. *Shakespeare* doesn't offer any excuses for the men's mistakes, but its candid depiction of a successful program for prisoner rehabilitation suggests some cause for optimism about the justice system at last, while reminding the audience about the transformative properties of art. One of the deleted scenes also introduces a character cut from the final edit: inmate Bruno, the painter and former stonemason who creates the play's scenery. Two of the

three audio commentaries feature inmates from the program discussing their experiences; convicted sex offender Leonard, a natural actor with a Kevin Spacey quality, relives a trip to solitary at the center of the film. Leonard's scenes, which contain a painful confession, complicate the film's ethics, but Rogerson helps realize Leonard's wish: “To redeem my life so that I am not remembered for the very worst thing that I have done.”

— *Marrit Ingman*

ALSO OUT NOW

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FILM NEWS

BY JOE O'CONNELL

WAR! FOOTBALL! SNAKE PLISSKEN?

The hotter it gets this masochistic summer, the more they need you. They being film/TV projects, and you being extras, background, blurry and silent visages over yonder dreaming of the big break or at least a free lunch with pay. The untitled war-in-Iraq film formerly known as *Stop-Loss* wants you this Saturday when Third Coast Extras will have an open-casting call from 10am to 6pm at the Austin Film Society office, 1901 E. 51st. They particularly want males between ages 18-25 to portray soldiers. As you read this, an entire platoon of extras is already going through boot camp, so expect to sweat. Bring a photo. And if you've missed the stream of extras-casting calls around town for the NBC series *Friday Night Lights*, call 707-7934, or e-mail fnl_extras@yahoo.com to learn how to get your info in. How long will it be before we get an extras call for the most coveted of gigs, on **Quentin Tarantino's** half of *Grind House*, his double-feature project with **Robert Rodriguez**? QT revealed at Comic-Con that his part, a slasher flick titled *Death Proof*, will star **Kurt Russell** and **Rosario Dawson**. Also announced are stunt woman **Zoe Bell** (*Kill Bill*), **Vanessa Ferlito** (24), **Jordan Ladd** (*Waiting*), **Sydney Tamiia Poitier** (*Veronica Mars*), and a couple of actresses also in Rodriguez's *Planet Terror*: **Rose McGowan** and **Marley Shelton**. I'll tell you about extras calls for this one if you send me your best **Goldie Hawn** sightings.

SXSW ALUMS AIM TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Two films that played to large, appreciative crowds during South by Southwest 06 and that deliver messages of hope continue to draw a buzz. **Turk Pipkin's** inspirational *Nobility*, which asks Nobel Prize winners how to solve the world's biggest problems, returns for screenings Saturday and Sunday at the Arbor Cinema (for showtimes, see Film Listings, p.80; for a SXSW 06 interview with Pipkin, see austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Issue/story?oid=oid%3A346293). But the bigger news is Landmark has picked up the film and will open it in Boston and Washington, D.C., on Sept. 8. Meanwhile, **Kat Candler** and crew are putting together a fall tour for the heart-felt *jumping off bridges*, including an Oct. 3 screening at the Alamo South. The tour will team with suicide-prevention groups across the country.

AND THE REST ...

Rumors keep flying about *The Highwaymen*, a film about the Texas Rangers who took down Bonnie and Clyde, which may or may not shoot here in the fall and may or may not involve **Robert Redford**... Congrats to **Arnie Reyes**, whose short film *Sticks & Stones* screened this week at the New York Independent Latino Film Festival in the “On the Edge” category... **Juan Garcia** of the Student Film Showcase, or SFS TV (and podcast), has been asked to speak at an international conference in Paris in October about the future of independent media. Check out the show's latest podcast at blog.sfstv.com... **Darren Aronofsky's** *The Fountain* is the closing-night film of the second Fantastic Fest, with Aronofsky in attendance. Plus, they've talked **Ed Neal**, the hitchhiker from the original *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*, into coming for a screening and slated lots of great Japanese films for the Sept. 21-28 fest. More at www.fantasficfest.com... The Galaxy Highland 10 has installed DLP cinema projectors that make all the auditoriums fully digital. What does that mean for a theatre that already boasts real butter on its popcorn? “Ultimate color, clarity, and detail,” theatre folk say. Joe-O sez check it out.

Send tips to filmnews@austinchronicle.com

Team Players

Guilds take the lonesome gamer out of seclusion ... kind of

BY CARSON BARKER

Throughout the Eighties and Nineties, gamers would take a game system to their rooms, turn on, tune in, and drop out. Since most games allowed only two-player modes, they could socialize with only one other person; anyone else would have to wait for the others to finish and grab the controller. Massively multiplayer online games like *Guild Wars* and *World of Warcraft* manifest something more sociable, offering unique virtual realms for hoards of subscribers. No more waiting for turns.

So what does the human species do when a large population congregates in a single area? They form groups, or in an MMO's case, guilds. Missions can be completed more successfully and efficiently in a group fashion. Without guidelines, however, these group efforts lend themselves to chaos, so the guilds grasp at producing these boundaries.

A guild's social structure is arranged as a pyramid. At the peak you have the members who possess the most points, have the highest social status, and hold the power to put the others under the influence of their codes of conduct. As the pyramid widens out, each level down consists of class members with fewer points and less status. The newbies at the bottom work their way up the pyramid through grinding, trading, and selling goods.

"We have to be able to be on call all of the time," says Greg Leonard, a 33-year-old Austin gamer who's been in the guild scene for six months and spends roughly 50 hours a week



Members of the United Order of Virtue, a *World of Warcraft* guild, line up in their Sunday best to slay an elemental beastie or perhaps just paint their e-universe red.

playing *World of Warcraft*. "If you can't be counted on, then why are you here?"

Leonard is in between guilds, with his sights set on one named Defiance, whose codes of conduct better suit his personal tastes. "Defiance is around my age; we have the same sense of brash humor. They don't want someone who's going to get their feelings hurt when they get insulted," Leonard says.

Brad Woolwine, a local game designer by day, spends his after-work hours as an officer for the Trick Model guild in the same game. The codes of conduct for his guild start with the basics. "We can't make racial slurs, and we have to be helpful to others, be nice to our guild members."

As they gain experience, guilders join in groups and tackle obstacles they couldn't conquer on their own. The achievements grant the guild members weapons and supplies, giving them a taste of the next level. "You have to have a 40-man team to take down some bosses, so everyone helps each other out," Leonard says. A team like this consists of 40 individu-

als, isolated at home, staring into a screen that hosts the universe of their alter egos.

Woolwine's home is completely dark except for one light in the computer room. The only thing clearly seen is Woolwine's pale skin, glowing through the dark corridors. He's in the middle of a game, his character surrounded by 20 others of the same guild. The voice communication plays through the speakers, relaying the jabber of his guild regulators barking orders like "Do I have to give a speech on ground-control people? No, no, no, let the mages do their job!" The authoritative voice resembles a football coach or a drill sergeant. The guild regulators direct every scenario they fall into, making it as orderly as possible, keeping the team from falling apart. Woolwine's vision was keenly focused on the screen as his chair swiveled side to side in anticipation. He, too, commits 50 hours a week to this endeavor.

Woolwine says that he's made several close friends through his guild. "Even if this game ended, I would still talk to my guild members.

We call each other by our real names, and some of them have my cell phone number."

Leonard's apartment is similar to Woolwine's house but halfway underground. Same ghostly pallor and same solitary light source. Communication with his potential guild members is more crude and vulgar, but their work ethic parallels Woolwine's guild. However, Leonard says his guild friends are online friends only. "I've never met them before, but I've heard of people who have traveled to meet their guild mates." When not combating, Leonard taps his fingers on his desk anxiously, craving the next attack.

As the game progresses, the obstacles, rewards, and social status of the players increases. The guilders work together, have scheduled raids, and have to think outside of the box for their team to continue pillaging the jungle of *World of Warcraft*. Through voice-communication programs like TeamSpeak or Ventrilo, the guilders are constantly problem solving, becoming friends, and working in a community. "You really get to know the people in your guild through voice communication," Leonard says.

"It's definitely a team sport; we communicate more so than real sports teams do," Woolwine says. "If one person drops the ball, all 40 players could go down. Everyone has to know what everyone else is doing." A team works together to complete a task without eye contact, hand signals, or reading the expressions on their teammates' faces. Online group forces have eliminated physical relevance in the term "working together."

Guilders have found a way to appease their social human needs yet still live a secluded lifestyle. Through *World of Warcraft*, Defiance, and TeamSpeak, gamers can be an important part of a close-knit community, without ever meeting their brethren. The alternate cyber-world teaches them leadership skills and challenges their intellect all in the comfort of a computer chair. Why play outside when all 200-plus of your friends are in the only room with a light on? ■

NFL HEAD COACH

EA Sports
PlayStation 2
\$39.95

With the No. 1 pick of the 2006 NFL draft, the Houston Texans select ... Mario Williams. Mario Williams? With Reggie Bush and Vince Young on the board, the Texans chose to go for a relatively unknown defensive end, thereby bypassing two of college football's greatest players of all time. Whether this is a monumental blunder in line with many of the Texans' previous upper-management mishaps or a shrewd maneuver inevitably guiding them toward their first-ever Super Bowl appearance will play out over these players' careers. Regardless of the outcome, their decision has left many Texans' fans bewildered and stunned and has baffled the hardcore



football world in general. EA Sports *NFL Head Coach* allows all the armchair Tom Landrys and Don Shulas out there a chance to step into the role of all-powerful head coach for an NFL team and to handle the tasks and duties thereof: hiring a managerial staff, drafting college players, signing free agents, creating and adding plays

to the playbook, motivating and training players, adjusting the depth chart, conferring with the coaching staff, etc. As fun as that may sound (not much fun at all), *NFL Head Coach* is one of the most boring, tedious, and unsatisfying video-game experiences known to mankind and nothing more than a glorified

version of *Madden's* franchise mode with all of the gameplay removed. Sure, you can call the plays on "game day," but that's it – the computer simulates all of the actual football action. On top of the total lack of gameplay; simming, loading, and saving take a tortuously long time, and many of the tasks are lifelike in the sense that they actually feel like work and are neither entertaining nor satisfying. How about an exciting "chat" with your defensive coordinator? It's in the game. Feel like choosing the outfit for your coach *NFL Head Coach* brings that dream to reality. *Head Coach's* possible success could pave the way for future titles like *NFL Equipment Manager* (must be hard getting all those grass stains out), *NFL Beer and Peanut Vendor* (bad for the back), or *Fat, Drunk, and Obnoxious NFL Fanatic* (try not to puke on the guy in front you). EA Sports is known for producing quality sports titles, but this attempt to feed off America's raging appetite for all things football places commerce above entertainment.

– Mark Fagan

PLAYERS' GUIDE

BY JAMES RENOVITCH

The namesake and king of Dellionaires everywhere, **Michael Dell**, takes the crown as the biggest wig to speak at the **Austin Game Conference**. Lesser, but still big, wigs include **Rob Pardo**, lead designer of *World of Warcraft*; **Jon Landau**, Academy-Award-winning producer of *Titanic*; and science fiction writer **Vernor Vinge**. The party starts Sept. 6. Till then, check out www.gameconference.com.



Michael Dell's world-domination tour stopped in Dallas, where he awarded the winners at the World Series of Video Games. With names like MaxFATAL1TY and Str8 Rippin, they better get paid. For a prize list and pics of all the champions with their oversized novelty checks, see **TheWSVG.com**.

Described as the Woodstock of gaming, **QuakeCon** comes to the Hilton Anatole in Dallas on Aug. 3. Don't let that description stop you from attending, because it's free. Go to www.quakecon.org, and register for tournaments or just peruse the impending virtual shenanigans.

Send all gaming news, rumors, and high scores to gaming@austinchronicle.com.



TV EYE

A Little Border Music

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

Illegals, wetbacks, mojados ... whichever label is deployed, the meaning is the same: someone who doesn't belong.

In recent times, the people those labels have been affixed to have become charged with everything from dismantling the American way of life to stealing bread from children's mouths. For those who have been studying the distinct immigration experience of the U.S.-Mexico border, the renewed attention to the "immigrant problem" is both familiar and frustrating. The wave of humans crossing from Mexico to the U.S. is not new. The level of visibility is what has changed. Again.

In contrast to the criminalization of immigrants typically found in the mainstream media, several small independent films have sought to put a human face on the experience. One of these films appears on PBS as part of the documentary series *POV: Al Otro Lado (To the Other Side)* by **Natalia Almada**, which makes its national broadcast premiere after playing the festival circuit, takes an interesting approach. She begins in Sinaloa, Mexico. As the drug capital of Mexico, Sinaloa is also the birthplace of the *narcocorrido* and home of the legendary singer Chalino Sanchez and monstrously popular Los Tigres del Norte. After offering some cursory background on the corrido, the life of Sanchez, and the history of Los Tigres, Almada focuses on a 23-year-old singer and fourth-generation fisherman Magdiel. Like many young Sinaloans, he is finding it difficult to make a living. The most obvious (and profitable) choice for him is to become a drug runner, but he's a musician at heart. So, when a coyote offers to help him cross to the U.S. in exchange for writing a corrido about him, Magdiel accommodates. He dreams of being a successful musician like Sanchez, but as many who have studied the immigrant experience know, Magdiel must overcome a series of inhumane hardships that he, in his naivete, cannot fathom.

Al Otro Lado is an important contribution to the understanding of the immigrant experience. Unfortunately, the broadcast version, edited to fit the 56-minute window, feels disjointed. Not having seen the original version, it's hard to tell if the lapses come from editing to length, or if

it's an accurate reflection of the original. While Magdiel is an interesting central character, *Al Otro Lado* is most powerful when it veers from his story. In an aside, peeking at the work of citizen border-watchers like Chris Simcox with Civil Homeland Defense on the Arizona border, we see firsthand the human experience of border-crossers. When Simcox finds four Mexicans hiding in the desert brush, the sense of despair among the Mexicans is palpable. When one of the men shows his calloused hands as evidence of the type of work he did in Mexico, it's clear this is a man who is not afraid of work. If "stealing jobs from Americans" means getting something for nothing, this small moment proves that the charge is misplaced. In the same segment, Simcox's earnestness also comes through. Encouraged by his president, he wants to do his part as a good citizen. It would probably disorient Simcox to realize that he and the Mexicans he has collared have more in common than he thinks. And it is in this moment that *Al Otro Lado* reaches to the heart of the matter. Unfortunately, the moment is fleeting as we are pulled back to Magdiel's story.

In comparison, local filmmaker **Heather Courtney**'s two films covering similar ground (*Los Trabajadores*, *Letters From the Other Side*) are more successful. However, Almada's work is a welcome and necessary contribution to what should be a long line of films that approach the subject from divergent perspectives.

It airs Tuesday, Aug. 1, at 9pm on PBS.

What Else Is On?

It has been 40 years since Charles Whitman climbed to the top of the University of Texas Tower, armed and with one thing on his mind. Ninety minutes later, Whitman had gunned down 45 people before being shot and killed by law enforcement. To mark the anniversary, local Fox affiliate KTBC will air a special 30-minute documentary on the event, *Sniper '66*. **Whitney Milam** is producing the special, which includes "never before seen footage." Also included are interviews with surviving eyewitnesses, Texas Ranger Ray Martinez (Ret.), KTBC newsman Neil Spelce, along with former UT President Larry Faulkner and Gary M. Laverne, author of *A Sniper in the Tower*. According to KTBC, *Sniper '66* does not seek to sensationalize the event but to "illuminate a time before mass murder in public spaces became almost routine. Before the tragedies of Columbine, Oklahoma City, and 9/11 desensitized the American public, Charles Whitman introduced Texas to domestic terrorism without a cause."

It airs Saturday, July 29, at 6:30pm on KTBC-Fox 7.

E-mail Belinda Acosta at tveye@austinchronicle.com.

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music

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TCB music news

BY CHRISTOPHER GRAY

PARKLIFE

Once upon a time, a rumor that the **Rolling Stones'** *Voodoo Lounge* tour would stop in **Texas Memorial Stadium**, for the first concert on the Longhorns' home field since **ZZ Top's** infamous 1974 Barn Dance, got TCB his maiden front-page *Daily Texan* byline. Sadly, the show was not to be, and UT's outdoor concert drought was instead broken by the **Eagles**. Correcting a 12-year injustice, the World's Wrinkliest Rock & Roll Band announced Tuesday that, provided **Keith Richards** doesn't fall out of any more trees, the fall 2006 leg of their **A Bigger Bang** tour will include the Stones' first-ever Austin show Oct. 22 at **Zilker Park**. Ticket information and support acts are TBA, but since the promoter is none other than **Austin City Limits Music Festival** producers **Capital Sports & Entertainment**, even money says **Lance Armstrong** introduces the band. Equally likely is that CSE asks former Stones opener **Los Lonely Boys** to repeat, but the San Angelo trio made headlines of their own when bassist **JoJo Garza** was arrested on misdemeanor charges of family disturbance and possession of marijuana before the Boys' **Stubb's** show last Saturday. The trouble started when someone at the downtown **Omni**, where the band was staying, registered a noise complaint and police were called to Garza's room. In a statement Monday, Los Lonely Boys' attorneys said the disturbance resulted from a "misunderstanding" between Garza and his fiancée, the bassist was detained despite her protests, and she exhibited no evidence of injury. (They declined to comment on the marijuana charge.) Garza was released on a personal bond in time to play the sold-out show. Finally, Brooklyn noisemakers **TV on the Radio**, replacing **Donavon Frankenreiter**, will join Los Lonely Boys and about 125 other acts at the ACL festival. Only single-day tickets remain for the Sept. 15-17 event.

STICK A FORK IN 'EM

It's probably safe to say that, unlike Austin's **Voxtro** and **Spoon**, **Sound Team** won't be invited to play the **Pitchfork Music Festival** anytime soon.

Last month, the influential indie-rock Web site awarded the local sextet's Capitol debut, *Movie Monster*, a middling rating of 3.7 out of 10, although the reviewer seemed much more interested in the forthcoming movie *Snakes on a Plane* than the album itself. The band responded with a short film on **YouTube.com** wherein a doll labeled "Sound Team" is repeatedly stabbed with a pitchfork, tossed off a cliff, and set on fire (though, oddly enough, not snakebitten).

Juicy feuds like this don't come along every day, so TCB broke out the good ol' crystal ball.

SATURDAY: Sound Team covers **Ray Wylie Hubbard's** *Snake Farm* and the collected works of **Whitesnake** while circling Chicago's **Union Park**, site of this year's Pitchfork festival, on a flatbed truck.

MONDAY: Pitchfork gives Sound Team's mobile performance a 2.4. "Worse than watching *Snakes on a Plane* with my eyelids glued open," writes the reviewer.

AUG. 18: Sound Team plays a miniset of "Snakes Crawl at Night," "Long Snake Moan," and "Fattening Frogs for Snakes" at the **Alamo Drafthouse's** *Snakes on a Plane* premiere party.

AUG. 20: In an exclusive *Misprint* interview, Sound Team announces they have uploaded a virus that diverts all Pitchfork traffic to the *Snakes on a Plane* home page.

SUMMER 2007: Pitchfork gives Sound Team's

Snakes on a Plane 2 soundtrack a 5.4, lauding **Samuel L. Jackson's** profanity-laced spoken-word interludes.

EARLY 2008: After Sound Team tours with **Radiohead** and **Wolf Parade**, Pitchfork awards *Movie Monster's* follow-up, *Just Plain Snakes*, a perfect 10.



BEYOND THE BACK ROOM

The **Back Room** is eulogized plenty in the pages to come, with good reason. Consider this: The Riverside Drive venue, which opened in 1973, is as old as doomed NYC punk shrine **CBGB**; moreover, both were ultimately felled by skyrocketing property values. But the Back Room's true value goes well beyond money. It inspired a degree of loyalty in its staff, performers, and patrons practically unheard of in the cut-throat nightclub industry. Often to its financial benefit, but sometimes not, it was consistently willing to program genres and styles shunned by trendier venues. Because of this, it was one of the few clubs in town whose clientele comprised a true scene – and without bending over backward to make sure everyone else knew about it.

Though the Back Room has booked as much mainstream rock and pop-punk as anything else for some time now, and though its most profitable shows over at least the past year have been hip-hop, it will forever be synonymous with metal. And the metal scene it nurtured for so many years is thriving like never before. Local metal is on TV with public access' *Pure Metal Sickness*, on the radio with 101X's *No Control*, in print with *The Edge, Whoopsy!*, and *Reloaded*, and in the clubs at **Redrum, Headhunters, Red Eyed Fly**, and **Room 710**. The one place it's not, it seems, is at the same dinner table as some of Austin's more celebrated genres.

"It's booming. It really is," says **Tammy Moore**, who began booking Redrum in January after two separate stints at the Back Room. She reels off a long list of bands populating this resurgent scene:

HEADBANGERS' BALL

Last call at the Back Room, Saturday, July 29. \$5 cover after 9pm:

12pm: **Amanda Lepre**
12:40pm: **TBD**
1:20pm: **Sugarwall**
2pm: **TBD**
2:40pm: **Vesperian Sorrow**
3:20pm: **The Killing Inside**
4pm: **Curse the Form**
4:40pm: **Distempered**
5:20pm: **Shrapnel**
6pm: **Manifesto**
6:40pm: **Ignitor**
7:20pm: **Quartershackle**
8pm: **Mevyn**
9pm: **The Hit**
9:40pm: **Sharp Dressed Man**
10:20pm: **Jolly Garogers**
11pm: **Stone Free**
11:40pm: **Big Balls**
12:20am: **Pariah tribute**
1:20am: **Fury**

Pantera's Phil Anselmo expresses his feelings.

PATRICIA MORAN



Course of Ruin, Hatchetwork, Closed Hand Promise, By Any Means Necessary, Shrapnel, Mevyn, Images of Violence, Vesperian Sorrow, Pleasant Valley, Meet Fist. Most, if not all, she insists, deserve not just local but national attention. One side effect of the Back Room's closing, Moore notes, is that it has forced the Austin music industry at large to finally pay attention. She just hopes it sticks.

"That's exciting to me, because one of the main things I want to happen is for the city to take the genre seriously," she says. "These guys are real money makers."

Although the game side will remain open on a month-to-month basis for up

to two more years, the Back Room's musical side signs off this weekend with an all-day barbecue and rock show Saturday (see schedule) and one last local hip-hop blowout Sunday with **Basswood Lane, Nac & Swift, Casino & Gutta Gang, C-Note, Rob G, 3rd Degree**, and many more. In the end, like CBGB, it was just a building, albeit an unusually long-lived one in a business where clubs come and go like the tides. What went on inside that building, however, for most if not all of the Back Room's 33 years, provided a wealth of lessons the rest of our beloved music scene would do well to learn.

PATRICE WATCH

Hometown *Rock Star: Supernova* contestant **Patrice Pike** had her first real brush with drama last week when she and blond roommate/drama queen **Jill Gioia** squared off over who would sing "Helter Skelter." Pike won the argument after asking Gioia, who wavered between the **Beatles** tune and several others, "Are you passionate about it? Because I'm passionate about it," prompting the inevitable catfight comments from **Tommy Lee**. The **Black Box Rebellion** singer led off last Tuesday's episode with a powerhouse rendition of the song that Lee dubbed "worth fighting for." (To be fair, Gioia likewise did a bang-up job on **Free's** "All Right Now.") Currently, **Cheapo Discs'** pool has Pike at 10-1 odds to win the competition; *Supernova* airs 8pm Tuesdays and 7pm Wednesdays on CBS.



Welcome to the Jungle

Inside the Back Room’s Hairistocracy, 1988-1995

BY RAY SEGGERN

Never in its 30-plus-year run was it Austin’s classiest venue, but the Back Room definitely had balls; in the self-proclaimed Live Music Capital of the World, it adopted a simple enough name: “The Rock Club.” And it was, especially during the era celebrated in these pages, 1988 to 1995. It was the age of Dangerous Toys and Pariah, when Pearl Jam and Stone Temple Pilots were openers and Steve Earle and Jane’s Addiction played back-to-back shows the very same night. The game side isn’t just where we first saw *Dragon’s Lair* and *Golden Tee*, but where Bono, Tommy Lee, and Dimebag Darrell headed after sold-out shows across town. And it’s where so many would suck down habañero-infused chili with Jim Ramsey, Mark Olivarez, and Jason McMaster every Super Bowl Sunday. This was a place built upon traditions, secret handshakes, and real loyalty – not just a club, but a clubhouse. And although many of us stopped paying our dues years ago, many didn’t. For the Back Room’s loyal army of regulars, it’s the center of a lifestyle. Year after year, generations of bands and fans continued to step right up, all the way to Saturday’s last hurrah. Austin, say goodbye to “The Rock Club.” Another one bites the dust.

– Andy Langer

It’s Dec. 31, 1988, New Year’s Eve at the Back Room, and the cock-rock cognoscenti are out in full force. The pagan princes of glam-sleaze outfit Gypsy Rogue have just finished their opening set, and the stage is a flurry of coming and going Marshall cabinets and Charvel guitars. In mere moments, Dangerous Toys will storm the stage. For now, the crowd buzzes and hums as the DJ blasts Guns n’ Roses through the PA:

“Welcome to the jungle, we’ve got fun and games, We’ve got everything you want, honey we know the names ...

The comers are dressed to the elevens. It’s a sea of snakeskin and fishnet; skirts hiked high and bulging biceps exposed. This hodgepodge of beautiful people basks in black light refracted off the Day Glo-green chain-link fences and ceiling-high mirrors that are the Back Room’s motif of the era.

Some are here to get laid. Some are here for the music. Some are here to get their loads on. I’m here for all three.

“We are the people that can find, whatever you may need, If you got the money, honey, we’ve got your disease ...

Anticipation is off the charts. Tonight’s headliner is Dangerous Toys, Austin’s own entry into the building post-G’N’R rock derby. A publishing rep signed the Toys backstage here at SXSW in March. They’ve spent most of summer and fall in Los Angeles recording their debut for Columbia. Tonight is their first show in almost six months.

“You’re a very sexy girl, very hard to please, You can taste the bright lights but you won’t get them for free ...

These are the halcyon days for the Back Room, the stuff of legend. Of spandex and strippers. Of cocaine and rattlesnake cowboy boots. Of backstage decadence and debauchery worthy of *Behind the Music*. Tales of 36-fret guitars, of really, really kickass hair. It was a time of booze-fueled, blues-fused hard rock, amplified – Marshall, of course – into a sound system so severe it made your testicles tingle.



Teas’n, Pleas’n: Dangerous Toys, with future honky-tonk hero Kevin Fowler (second from left)

The only Eighties metal cliché missing here is spandex, at least on the men. Then again, as the occasion signals, we’re only 365 days from sticking a fork in the decade. Spandex is pretty much dead by now (“you’re so 1983”), giving way to ripped, acid-washed 501s or that evergreen metal mainstay, leather.

The Back Room’s new matching \$5,000 (each) Intellibeam creep and crawl around the wall and ceilings and over the crowd, like a police helicopter searching for a fleeing fugitive, or perhaps the skylight at a red carpet soiree. It feels a lot like that tonight.

“Welcome to the Jungle, we take it day by day. You learn to live like an animal in the jungle where we play ...

Stagehands continue to strike Rogue’s gear, making way for the Toys’ new stage setup purchased with some of that Columbia fat cash. A seemingly interminable row of Anvil-cased Marshall heads and cabinets line the back perimeter.

The club goes dark, the DJ silent, and all that’s left is anticipation, hanging even thicker now. Anticipation of a new year. Anticipation of how high up the rock-star ladder this ragtag team of Texans can climb. On some level, it’s much more primal and guttural: anticipation of the onslaught of sound and lights mere moments away, the audiovisual overload of the imminent Rock Show.

“And when you’re high you never, ever wanna come down, So down ... so down ... so down ... Yeah!”

Four-fifths of Dangerous Toys dart from the darkness and become visible onstage. Guitarist Scott Dalhover, bassist Mike Watson, drummer Mark Geary, and “new guy” Danny Aaron launch into signature opener “Start the Party.”

Four bars in, vocalist Jason McMaster emerges from the recesses of backstage in mirrored shades. He is the Back Room’s own golden god, a general returning from the wars of the Western shore, wiser and stronger for the

battles. The one, rightful ruler of the East Riverside Hairistocracy.

The Toys tear through a 75-minute set, pausing only for the briefest of chatter about their El-Lay adventures and to remind the crowd how much they are loved. And, of course, to ring in the New Year in a sea of confetti and flying corks and ham-handed, slobbery smooches. After midnight, they sprint to the finish with new songs from the forthcoming record, and old crowd favorites that are not, a proper sampling of this band on the cusp.

Next, presumably, comes the encore, as the crowd demands.

“DANGE ... russ ... TOYS! DANGE ... russ ... TOYS! DANGE ... russ ... TOYS! DANGE ... russ ... TOYS!”

Toys’ song selection for the encore is peculiar and entirely appropriate. Dalhover hits the instantly familiar, delay-rich riff that begins *Appetite for Destruction*, and “Jungle” springs to

These are halcyon days for the Back Room, days of spandex and strippers, cocaine and rattlesnake cowboy boots.

life, absent irony, wink, or nudge. McMaster’s reddish hair and ample vocal talents are the spitting image of Axl. Dalhover reinvents Slash’s rather simple 12-bar solo as sweeping arpeggios. The otherwise note-for-note rendering ends with a single, subtle personalization:

“In the jungle, welcome to the jungle ... It’s gonna bring you down, Back Room!”

The show ends two songs later, and anticipation gives way to afterglow. But even that

continued on p.58



An Oct. 1990 Back Room ad. Note Alice in Chains and Pantera in small print.

“In the jungle, welcome to the Jungle Watch it bring you to your ... Sha-na-na-na-na-na-na-na-na-na-na-na knees, please.

Final Countdown

BY DARCIE STEVENS

Thirty-three years of Back Room shows and events can hardly be summed up in one timeline, but with the end of this established venue in our sights, it's worth a try. Great roadshows and historic local shows have come and gone from the Riverside metal mecca, but more important is its spread of genres. What reads metal today had its turn in folk rock, alt-rock, and even a few bouts of country. Panned together from talks with regulars, bookers, and years of ads and notices, a spotlight review follows. Just remember, as the ad used to say, "A Neat Appearance Is Required."

Nov. 1973: Back Room opens its doors at 2021 E. Riverside, now a ThunderCloud Subs. For nearly a decade, the live shows include residencies by W.C. Clark, Stephen Doster, and Angela Strehli, among others.

Late Seventies: Back Room moves to 2015 E. Riverside and transforms the Copper Dollar biker bar into a massive game room.

1981: Wayne Nagel takes over as talent buyer.

April 1985: The Back Room expands to double its size.

April 4, 1985: Austin all-star band the True Believers takes the Back Room stage for the first time.



True Believers

April 10, 1985: British metal trio Raven plays, possibly the Back Room's first metal show.

July 5, 1985: The Unforgiven play before their Willie's 4th of July Picnic appearance; Willie Nelson joins them onstage for 30 minutes.

July 11, 1985: Megadeth opens for Exciter.

Late 1985: Wayne Nagel leaves the Back Room to go on the road with Charlie Sexton. Jim Ramsey takes over as talent buyer.

Jan. 29 & 30, 1988: The Ramones rock *Halfway to Sanity*.

March 1988: Dangerous Toys sign to Columbia Records after their SXSW Back Room showcase, during the second SXSW Music Fest.

May 4, 1988: Molly Hatchet plays, eight days before Foghat.



Ramones

Jan. 13, 1989: Jane's Addiction

April 23, 1989: Mother Love Bone opens for Dogs D'Amour; less than a year later, lead singer Andy Wood dies of a heroin overdose.

June 29, 1989: Danzig

March 1990: Pariah plays their SXSW showcase at the Back Room; eight major labels scout the show, and the band signs with Geffen.



Sept. 29, 1990: Modern English stops the world and melts with the Back Room.

Oct. 16, 1990: Alice in Chains opens for Extreme.

continued on p.58

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is still rooted in a sense of what’s next. Toys’ eponymous debut LP drops in four months. By summer, breakthrough single “Scared” is No. 1 with a bullet on MTV’s daily countdown, and Toys are touring the world with the Rock Elite. By Christmas 1989, Dangerous Toys will have sold 400,000 records.

But for now, it’s Jan. 1, and when the sweaty, throbbing throng exits the Back Room between 1:30 and 2am, almost no one will pay heed to the 8-by-10-inch publicity photo of a relatively unknown band called Jane’s Addiction. However, someone has Sharpied a menacing penis onto the *Nothing’s Shocking* poster that hangs at the doorway.

Glory Days

People’s memories of those Back Room glory days, the late Eighties and early Nineties, almost universally come down to two things: the scene of Dangerous Toys, Pariah, and the dozens of other local bands that called the club home; and the roadshows. The conversation here invariably shifts to Jim Ramsey, the notorious promoter who booked the club between 1986 and 1993. The refrain is always similar: “Whatever you thought of Ramsey, he made his mark there.”

Ramsey made his mark on the Austin music scene long before setting foot in the Back Room. He opened Club Foot and put a bevy of talent, including U2, on its stage. He almost single-handedly willed South Park Meadows into existence alongside landowner Abel Theriot; the Police’s landmark 1983 stop was but one of his shows. He was part of the legendary “Ivory Tower” consortium that ruled the scene from the One Texas Center high-rise at South First and Barton Springs, built on the very foundation of the Armadillo. This loose-knit group included promoter legends Tim O’Connor and French Smith, omnipresent band manager Marc Proct, ticket man Brad Meyer (Star Tickets), and Steve Hauser, the Pace Concerts prodigy who went on to become a vice-president at William Morris Nashville. Save Liberty

I was making pretty good money for a guy who drank too much, partied too much, and woke up around whenever.

Lunch and niche venues likes Antone’s and the Cactus Cafe, they pretty much ran the town.

Ramsey was the Al Swearngen of the Back Room, not above pulling his (metaphorical) knife to get his way. Brash and cocky, Ramsey was capable of spewing venom and bile with the best/worst of them. To be sure, he was a forceful personality, but one who did seem to have a sense of the camp’s bigger purpose, for which he probably didn’t get enough credit. People remember Ramsey consistently placing in “Worst Thing to Happen to Austin Music” at the annual Austin Music Awards. They forget, or never knew, how many bands he helped along the way.

I went to work for Ramsey for the first time a week after that New Year’s Eve Toys show, a week before the Jane’s Addiction show of



Outshined: Soundgarden, louder than love at the Back Room in 1990

January 13, 1989. My speed-metal group Zero Tolerance was then playing the club, and bar manager Mark Olivarez would hire me to spin records on nights the harder bands were playing (my late-night KTSB metal show focused on bands like Anthrax, Slayer, Megadeth, et al, more marginal, less sexy fare for the club at the time). I told Ramsey he was crazy to bring Jane’s Addiction to town without hanging fliers around campus. He saw the light, and we turned away 500 people that night.

Before long, I was hanging fliers for most roadshows around campus in exchange for tickets. Over the ensuing months, that parlay grew exponentially. I DJed at the club, not just on metal nights, but eventually every night. I laid out the weekly *Chronicle* ad. I set up flea markets, battles of the bands, listening parties, and the like.

Soon enough I was more or less booking the local talent at the Back Room, as Ramsey refocused his attention on bigger fish at City Coliseum, the Opry House, and the whopper of them all, Spring Break on South Padre Island. He started cutting me in on profits from his bigger shows. Between my weekly KUT gig covering City Council and all these rock & roll money streams, I was making pretty good money for a guy who drank too much, partied too much, and woke up around whenever. By summer 1990, when we finally made our stand at Padre, I had dropped out of UT and was pretty much living in Ramsey’s spare bedroom. Who needs a degree, I thought, when you can make such good coin without actually working?

Ever the gunslinger, Ramsey was the perfect henchman for owner Ronnie Roark’s perfect-storm business model. We could overpay for talent, undercharge for tickets – even lose money at the door – as long as we sold enough at the bar, which in turn ended up with liquored-up patrons pounding their quarters into the pool tables. The Door. The Bar. The Games. Three distinct yet intertwined revenue streams. And as long as two were profitable, we were golden.

That’s why we had so many roadshows at the Back Room, and it’s the reason why people have so many “way back when” stories that feature the likes of Maynard Keenan (Tool), Tom Morello, Andrew Wood (Mother Love Bone), Perry Farrell, Joey Ramone, Chris Cornell, and Layne Staley. Depending on who you ask, the stories tend to take on their own personality, due to both embellishment and the general, ahem, fuzziness of memories around that time.

Take the October 1991 Pearl Jam show, the third date of the *Ten* tour. Eddie Vedder did his first “monkey man” kick, climbing onto one of the sprinkler-system pipes, got his hair caught in one of the sprayers, and eventually freed himself to finish the show. Andy Langer and I stood next to each other start to finish, sure at that moment we’d be doused by the sprinklers. We still agree it’s interesting how the confirmed paid attendance was less than 50, but today hundreds of people swear they were there.

What I remember with this show, as with most, is the little stuff. Here, it’s the introverted Vedder sitting in a backstage corner after the show, obviously uncomfortable with well-wishers’ comings and goings, staring at his feet while engaged in an hourlong conversation with Langer.

My favorite star-fucker story was back in 1988, interviewing Mother Love Bone, including future Pearl Jammers Stone Gossard and Jeff Ament, who had just opened for Dogs D’Amour. I relaxed with band members backstage as vocalist Andrew Wood bounced in and out of the room at will, seemingly on an ADHD bender. The rest of the band remained (relatively) thoughtful and focused, even as three “band-aids” in pastel cotton sundresses – and not much else – bathed themselves around a 5-gallon watercooler as they passed around a huge Ziploc Baggie of magic mushrooms. Every time I’ve run into Jeff and/or Stone in the last 18 years, they always remember that night. How couldn’t they?

Many of my most vivid memories don’t have anything to do with metal, like the night

continued on p.60

Nov. 15, 1990: Warren Zevon makes one of many Back Room appearances.

Nov. 27, 1990: Alice in Chains opens for Iggy Pop.

Jan. 27, 1991: “Back Room Superbowl Party featuring Jim’s legendary kickass championship chili” – one of many fiestas.

Oct. 9, 1991: Pearl Jam brings grunge to the Back Room stage for less than 100 people after a Sound Exchange in-store. While doing a legendary rafter climb, Eddie Vedder’s locks catch in the fire sprinkler head; the hair remained there until the stage was switched around years later.

Nov. 30, 1991: Dallas’ Pantera blows the PA system with their first note, literally; the show is rescheduled for Dec. 7.

April 13, 1992: Mr. Bungle

April 25, 1992: Widespread Panic

May 21, 1992: Blur

June 1, 1992: Kiss Hoot Nite, one of the first of many to come, including Van Halen Hoot, Aerohoot, Metallihoot, and ZZ Hoot.

June 28, 1992: On their *Opiate* tour, Tool opens for the Rollins Band; it’s the first early, all-ages show at the Back Room.

Oct. 1, 1992: The Back Room wins best PA System in the Best of Austin Critics Poll.

Oct. 2, 1992: Motörhead makes one of many Back Room appearances.

Oct. 15 & 19, 1992: Public Enemy

Nov. 3, 1992: Mary’s Danish plays a free K-NACK show, and Bill Clinton is elected president.

Dec. 2, 1992: Stone Temple Pilots

Dec. 5, 1992: Asia reunites and plays the Back Room.

Dec. 12, 1992: Trance Syndicate Showcase: Ed Hall, Pain Teens, and the Cherubs.

Jan. 2, 1993: Ice-T & Body Count roll through on their Cop Killer tour; cops line up backstage.

Jan. 3, 1993: Ice Cube

Feb. 12, 1993: Great White

Feb. 28, 1993: Suzanne Vega

March 9, 1993: Rage Against the Machine opens for House of Pain.

June 3, 1993: Toto follows in Asia’s footsteps with a Back Room reunion show.

Early 1994: Jim Ramsey hands the reigns over to Mark Olivarez as talent buyer, who worked his way up from barback.

Jan. 15, 1994: Warrant plays “Cherry Pie,” and everyone gets a perm.

March 31, 1994: Pantera plays a “secret show” as Cowboys From Hell; a line forms around the club to get day-of-only tickets.



Warren Zevon



Kiss Hoot Nite



Public Enemy



Suzanne Vega

continued on p.61

CHRONtourage

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Sat., July 29, 3pm

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Sun., July 30, 6:30pm

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1am - A Particularly Vicious Rumor (from nola)



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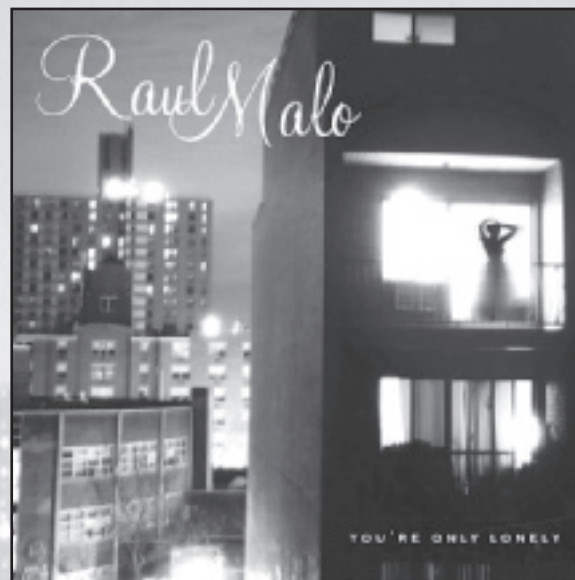
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WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS

WATERLOO

Bill Clinton was elected in Nov. 1992, when Mary’s Danish played a free show for 1,000 people. We left the big-screen projector TV on during the show to watch the election returns.

Or the night I booked Glass Eye goof project Monniker to open for Porcelain Grind. I loved these little experiments. Most failed, like the time I put on the fledgling Hollywood Indians, fronted by a doe-eyed kid named Ethan

The Back Room was always the seedy club on the wrong side of I-35 with the wrong kind of music.

Azarian, to open a 24-7 Spyz show. I hoped to exploit the feud the Indians had fueled via West Campus posters with the “Chornicle.”

No one cared. Truthfully, these examples aren’t all that germane to the era. They are personal indulgences. Afterthoughts. Asterisks.

In that day and age, it really was about the metal. It was Pantera’s Phil Anselmo allegedly pistol-whipping a stripper with his penis, for seemingly no good reason – talk about a vulgar display of power – or paunchy Quiet Riot sing-

Exit Pole

In the early Eighties, teenage Back Room rat Jason McMaster learned from the likes of Armored Saint, Saxon, Nazareth, and Cheap Trick, and applied those lessons in Austin’s two most important hard-rock acts ever: seminal progressive metallurgists Watchtower and the gold-selling Dangerous Toys. Twenty years, and perhaps 20 bands, later, his is the undisputed face of the Back Room. In fact, perhaps the only Back Room fixture more identifiable than McMaster’s mug may be “The Pole,” the club’s huge load-bearing, view-obstructing onstage column. “If you’re tired at the end of the show, it’s an excellent crutch,” McMaster told the *Chronicle* in 2003. “I use it as part of the show, as every pole on a stage should be.”

Austin Chronicle: How was the Back Room different from every other sleazy metal club?

Jason McMaster: This one was home. Period. You play one sleazy metal club, you’ve played ‘em all. Ain’t that the fuckin’ truth. But when you’re at home and you want to go to a sleazy metal bar, you went to the Back Room. It’s where the heart mended itself, bloomed, and got angry and happy, all in one shot-glass.

AC: So a piece of you dies with the Back Room, right?

JM: Not necessarily. Mark Olivarez said this first, but it truly is more about the people than the place. Relationships were made. People were born, and people died. People were discovered, and people faded away. There were people hired and fired. They moved away. They moved back. They had children. The circle of life continues either way.

AC: But that clubhouse for like-minded people no longer exists.

JM: True. And it’s closing down because of gentrification, not because the scene is dead. But people won’t let what they had there die. You had to be there. And if you weren’t, you

er Kevin DuBrow, beset by pattern baldness, berating the crew during soundcheck: “While we’re young!” Funny for so many reasons.

People can tell you what drugs were purchased – and from whom, though not on the record – by Layne Staley, Dave Navarro, and Scott Weiland. The list goes on and on and on.

Shatter Me

Pariah was the right band at the wrong time. When they busted out on the Back Room scene in 1988, they quickly established themselves as the Dangerous Toys’ heir apparent. They could sell out the club on their own. They looked good, sounded great, and were the Back Room’s undisputed “next big thing.” But by the time their Geffen debut finally came out in 1993, it was a whole new world.

In October 1992, I traveled to L.A.’s Conway Studios with Pariah to document the festivities for a *Chronicle* music feature. During my two days with the band, I met legendary A&R rep Tom Zutaut (who signed Guns n’ Roses and Tesla) and producer Tom Werman (Metallica, Mötley Crüe).

The handling of Pariah was problematic all along. Throughout 1988, 1989, and 1990, the group built a relentless following among the Texas underground. Once Dangerous Toys

missed a good time. Fuck, that place has smelled exactly the same for 20 years.

AC: Describe the smell.

JM: The night crew swabs the deck with ammonia to cover the beer smell and barf. So in the morning it smells like ammonia, but a few hours later that gets replaced by something that smells like burning plastic. It could just be the fucking layers of paint, spit, and scum on the walls.

AC: Will you miss the pole?

JM: Originally, there was the corner-stage pole, stage left. And then when they moved the stage, there was the center pole, the way it is now. Fuck. I’ve molested two poles there. It’s funny, there was a blog the other day where people were talking about grabbing the pole when the bulldozers come. I felt a little ownership there.



Jason McMaster (center, with pot leaf hat on), the late Dimebag Darrell (with camera), and friends



Pariah, ready for the major-label close-up that never came

got signed, everyone wondered when Pariah would follow suit. Some feared that lightning wouldn’t strike twice for Austin, but it did in summer 1991, even as Geffen prepared for the release of Nirvana’s *Nevermind*. The Seattle

AC: So you want it instead?

JM: Nah. I’ve had my time with the pole. I’d like to have a brick though, to set next to my Liberty Lunch brick. This is that important.

AC: You won’t be there to see it close.

JM: No. I’ll be in Canton, South Dakota, with Broken Teeth. The tour’s been booked since April.

AC: Is that disappointing?

JM: It is. When they announced this, I think they instinctively thought I’d be there to play the last show. It’s definitely an honor for the staff to suggest I’d be the last guy to come off that stage. But I’ve got obligations, and they respect that too. That obligation is to rock until I’m dead, and that’s what the fuck I’m doing.

AC: That’s what the Back Room would have wanted.

JM: Damn right it is.

– Andy Langer

trio’s album came out that September, and everything changed.

“Things were changing, and we were going with the flow,” recalls Pariah singer David Derrick. “We were playing whatever we thought was cool and weren’t afraid to jump whatever bandwagon. We were young and wanted to impress the label types. But, yeah, the scene was definitely swaying off from the hair bands as they called ‘em. Called us.”

But Pariah weren’t hacks. They had boatloads of songwriting talent. But taking their new songs with the old, their repertoire was all over the road. By the time Pariah made it into the studio, there was no clear consensus about what to do with them. The band had grown musically and had written great songs but had been shelved to avoid competing with the Gunners’ *Use Your Illusion* double-dip.

Nobody could even seem to agree if Pariah was a hair band or not. One thing that stands out more than anything is Zutaut in the studio, decreeing from on high, “You are not a Lollapalooza band.”

By the time the time was right, it was all wrong, and *To Mock a Killingbird* arrived much too late, more or less stillborn in summer 1993.

One year after *Killingbird* finally did see the light of day, Quentin Tarantino’s *Pulp Fiction* was the most talked-about film on the big screen. Watching onetime *Law & Order* guest star Samuel L. Jackson opine how the TV business worked, you couldn’t help but think of Pariah.

Paraphrasing, Jackson noted that some pilots become TV series while others become nothing. Through no fault of its own, *To Mock A Killingbird* was a pilot that became nothing.

Hellbent for Flannel

A lot of people remember Kurt Cobain as the assassin of All Things Metal, and there is a sliver (pardon the pun) of truth there. Nirvana certainly captured the cultural zeitgeist when *Nevermind* dropped in late 1991, though not really until “Smells Like Teen Spirit” went Top 10 in early 1992. Kurt became the Anti-Axl,

continued on p.62

Nov. 17, 1994: GWAR, Skatenigs, Buzzovion – classic.

Jan. 14, 1995: Marilyn Manson makes his first Austin appearance, and the band is wearing jeans.

June 6, 1995: Friends gather outside the Back Room after learning of Pariah bassist Sims Ellison's suicide.

Sept. 21, 1995: Spoon
Oct. 20, 1995: Deftones open for Monster Magnet.

May 19, 1996: 2 Live Crew incites the Back Room crowd to fistcuffs, and cops are called in to empty the club. Not a pretty sight.

Feb. 27, 1997: "The New Jim Rose Circus! Female Sumo Wrestling Championships! Mexican Transvestite Wrestling! See the Man with Horns Growing from His Forehead! As seen on X-Files, The Simpsons, Lollapalooza, and the NIN tour!"

Nov. 8, 2003: Dangerous Toys headlines the Back Room's 30th anniversary show.

Feb. 27, 2004: Drifter and Mindcrime – two favorite Back Room tribute bands – perform as Iron Maiden and Queensrÿche, respectively.

July 23, 2004: W.A.S.P.

Aug. 20, 2004: Soulfly

Oct. 2004: Mark Olivarez steps aside as booker and hands off to Eddie Vasquez, Sean McCarthy, Tammy Moore, and eventually Phillip Nitch, aka Captain Phleabag, singer of pirate band the Jolly Garogers.

Feb. 2005: Mark Burnett Productions holds auditions for a new INXS lead singer at the Back Room. Ouch.

Summer 2005: General manager Sean McCarthy's son James Dean begins promoting hip-hop at the Back Room, following several years' worth of successful SXSW hip-hop showcases. Locals Dirty Wormz stoke the fire, and soon acts like Bun B, Devin the Dude, Trae, and Bavu Blakes follow suit.

Oct. 2005: The Back Room beer garden opens in response to Austin's new smoking ban and caters to a less black-clad crowd.

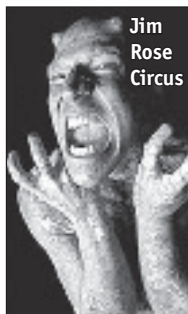
Dec. 4, 2005: Jada Pinkett Smith rocks with Wicked Wisdom.

July 15, 2006: Deicide makes one last Back Room appearance.

July 29, 2006: The Back Room's farewell show. A big chapter of Austin metal writes its last page.



GWAR



Jim
Rose
Circus



W.A.S.P.



Bun B



Jada Pinkett
Smith

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rejecting all the notions of rock-star excess and extravagance G’N’R came to symbolize.

But the truth is that hard rock and metal were being “Seattle-ized” long before *Nevermind*. First came the aforementioned Jane’s Addiction show in January 1989. Later that year was a Voivod, Soundgarden, and Faith No More triple-header. In 1990, it was Alice in Chains busting on the scene with *Facelift*. Even in early 1991, Smashing Pumpkins’ *Gish* arrived months before Nirvana or Pearl Jam started to break big.

Accordingly, a lot of the Back Room’s next wave of local headliners – Near Dark, Porcelain Grind, and Hush Scarlett among them – demonstrated decidedly alt-rock leanings. In the past, you might have heard a Montrose or Thin Lizzy cover to close out a Friday-night set. By then it was more common to hear “Mountain Song” or “Pigs in Zen.” And in 1992, right on schedule, the Back Room had its first bona fide local “grunge” headliner in Dig, who would eventually change their name to Seed and go on to release a record on Giant. In 1994, they enjoyed a respectable 15 minutes on MTV’s *Alternative Nation*.

Reflecting on the turn of that decade, there was no longer a single “metal” sound than there was a single “Seattle” sound that killed it. Wasn’t, for instance, Queensrÿche from Seattle?

When Alice in Chains played the Back Room in 1990, they opened for Extreme. Perhaps Guns n’ Roses themselves took the first steps toward making things less posed and fake. Watch the difference in the way Guns n’ Roses carries itself between first video “Welcome to the Jungle” (spandex, poofy hair) and true breakthrough “Sweet Child o’ Mine” (not so much). By then, links to the glam-metal era of Poison and Cinderella were fading fast; even the mighty Crüe had ditched the make-up.

And what about Pantera? They were without peer among the poofy-hair set. But with a new singer and harder sound, they reinvented themselves and prospered among the first tier of Nineties aggro-metal bands.

If there was a single vibe that resonated with these disparate bands on the rise, it was a rejection of the self-importance that came to typify Eighties metal. Rock-star indulgences – except, of course,



The Player

From 1986 to 1993, if you needed anything Back-Room-related, from tickets to a sold-out show or a gig for your brother-in-law’s cock-rock band, booking agent Jim Ramsey was your man. With owner Ronnie Roark’s blessing, Ramsey’s calendars balanced some 15-20 road shows a month with an ever-rotating slate of developing local acts (often stacked six to a bill). Even a decade into a post-music life in advertising, he’ll easily go down as the guy who reigned over the Back Room’s glory days. Don’t believe us? Just ask Jim Ramsey.

Austin Chronicle: *A lot of folks identify the Back Room’s glory days as your days.*

Jim Ramsey: I think they were. Wayne Nagel introduced to me Ronnie Roark in late 1985. I needed a club for road shows. I’d put bands like the Fleshtones at Duke’s Royal Coach Inn. And I’d done a lot of shows at Raul’s and Club Foot. As a promoter, it would be frustrating to see these clubs come and go. Wayne suggested the Back Room. Before I knew it, I’d cut a deal to put all my road shows there. For a while there, when it came to road shows, there were two venues: wherever I was and Liberty Lunch. And when I left in the spring of 1993, you could take a knife and cut it. The golden age of the Back Room road show was over.

AC: *What was your relationship with Ronnie Roark like?*

drugs – became contrived and were kicked to the curb by the so-called “Generation X.”

And, don’t forget, there was another strain of metal with an even bigger Nineties influence. Metallica’s self-titled fifth record, known ever after as the Black Album, was released two weeks before *Nevermind*. The Bay area band had enjoyed decent success with 1986’s *Master of Puppets* and 1988’s ...*And Justice for All*, but with “Enter Sandman” all over MTV’s pre-TRL countdown – before “Smells Like Teen Spirit,” we should note – Metallica redefined metal and took it into the mainstream in ways even Judas Priest and Iron Maiden hadn’t.

The highly stylized stripe of metal rooted in partying and getting laid and looking good was on its way out. Ugly and loud as hell, Metallica had been battling those pretty-boy notions for a decade, finally and ironically becoming a multiplatinum phenomenon – *Metallica* has now sold more than 20 million copies worldwide – just as Nirvana did.

In the end, what gets lost in hindsight is this overlapping period where metal was on the decline and alt-rock was on the upswing. But the two certainly co-existed, co-mingled, cross-pollinated, and overlapped, for a time anyway, at the Back Room.

The Song Remains the Same

What’s interesting about the Back Room’s heyday, roughly from Toys’ 1988 signing to Ramsey’s 1993 ouster, is that everyone who ran the show thereafter was around back in the day. Mark Olivarez was already running the bar when he took on the booking. Eventually, as general manager, he ceded those duties to Mike “Truth” Boudreaux, former head of security. Phil Nitch, the guy with the pirate fetish who succeeded



JR: It was great. Somebody needs to stand up and say if it weren’t for Roark, it never would have been there. He opened it up as a club and was dedicated to music all along. And had he not been willing to put up the money for road shows, they wouldn’t have happened. As long as the music wasn’t taking money away from the games and bar was breaking

even, he didn’t care. His gaming business was huge. He made a fortune out of games.

AC: *Business aside, the Back Room always had a pretty heavy family angle.*

JR: Sure. Just as there was a strong core following for the Armadillo or Liberty Lunch, there was a family aspect at the Back Room too. Absolutely. The thread was music. These were people that would see each other every night and then still want to spend their weekends going out and picnicking or joining a busload of people to float the river together. I remember bungee jumping over the San Saba River with a bunch of the bartenders and doormen three weeks in a row.

AC: *Do you think part of the Back Room faithful’s us-vs.-them mentality came from the club’s location in a sketchy neighborhood?*

JR: A little bit. But, remember, in the mid-Eighties, Riverside was still all college kids in condos. I was there the other day, and the neighborhood has certainly changed. It’s not what it used to be. It was always kind of rough, but not this rough.

AC: *Will you miss it?*

JR: I’ll miss the Back Room of my era. I had a great time there. But I know the best thing that could’ve happened to my internal organs was to move on. I suspect my liver is still out there in the parking lot.

AC: *Maybe that’s the smell McMaster talks about.*

JR: Fried brain cells and Ramsey’s rotting liver? Exactly. – Andy Langer

Boudreaux as booking agent, ran sound back then. And when Olivarez moved up through the Roark organization, he promoted yet another long-hauler, Sean McCarthy, to GM.

My own exit from the Back Room was rather inauspicious. When Olivarez left the club and briefly moved to Houston, he was replaced by Red Rose manager “R.T.,” who let me know my services were no longer “requested.” Ramsey said I could keep working for his other shows. It was personal by then, so I just took my toys and left the sandbox, focusing on my K-NACK radio gig and heading back to school to finish my degree.

When Olivarez came back to Austin, he and I mended fences, and I did a little DJing – where I worked alongside onetime Big Boy/Junkyarder Chris Gates, then running sound – and some advertising layout, although Photoshop’s arrival rendered my skills obsolete. I only re-entered the club for a month, but at least we ended on a positive note.

One of the last shows I booked into the Back Room was, oddly, Spoon. Olivarez was back running the club, and my K-NACK radio show *Homegroan* had spawned a weekly live-music showcase, bouncing from West Campus pizza dive Zeppoli’s to Antone’s on Guadalupe, Babe’s on Sixth, Liberty Lunch, Electric Lounge, and the Back Room.

I did five weeks there, including that Spoon show featuring original bassist Andie Maguire. While I doubt anyone regards that show as any kind of high point in Spoon’s career, ever, the Back Room appears twice as often in the Britt Daniel lyrical canon (“The Minor Tough,” “Anything You Want”) as the Electric Lounge (“Waiting for the Kid to Come Out”).

I’m not sure how history will remember the Back Room. As a hard-rock proving ground,

the club produced seven major-label contenders in 14 years. Besides the Toys and Pariah, Johnny Law and Lance Keltner were signed around the same time. Dig/Seed followed in 1994, Unloco in 1999, and Ritalin/Riddlin’ Kids in 2000. The tally grows to eight if you count Junkyard, who played the Back Room and had Austin ties (Gates) but didn’t exactly come up there. Hard to imagine any other local clubs with such a solid batting average over the last 30 years.

Even “getting signed” ain’t what it used to be. Nowadays, it’s nothing to record and release your own stuff, promote it on the Internet, and build your own world, but back then, it was the silver chalice. Like so much of the dust kicked up today, the rush of a major-label deal is another arcane notion that requires a lot of explaining to dispel the anachronism.

Here’s the thing. For a place filled with so many cool people, which on any given night had the coolest show in town, the Back Room was never cool. Not really. It was always the seedy club on the wrong side of I-35 with the wrong kind of music. In reality, the club had to try thrice as hard to overcome those preconceptions; we hired extra security so that unescorted females never had to walk to their cars alone. Forget that it was an oasis where you could see so many of the day’s up-and-comers for a ridiculously cheap ticket, and that, for this brief moment, it ran neck-and-neck with Liberty Lunch for the coolest shows in town.

In a world where perception equals reality, I suppose, that’s how history will remember the Back Room. Not quite larger than life, not quite getting its due, just that marginalized metal club over in the barrio. That will hereafter be the Back Room’s eternal albatross, but those of us who were there know different. ■

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MINISTRY, REVOLTING COCKS, PITBULL DAYCARE

La Zona Rosa, July 20

The bullhorn. The metallic punch and industrial grind. The crazy-quilt film footage. The charismatic lead vocalist. No, it's not the Butthole Surfers at Liberty Lunch in the Nineties, it's 2006 and Uncle Al Jourgensen got a wild hair up his ass while working on *Rio Grande Blood*, his full-bore attack on Bush America. While brain-frying that project, he commandeered the toughest of his side bands, Revolting Cocks, flaccid after a 12-year hiatus, released *Cocked and Loaded* – featuring former Austinite Phil Owen (Skatenigs, Choreboy) – then put both acts on the road. After a charmless opening set by San Antonio quartet Pitbull Daycare, the Cocks hardened with a vengeance. Jourgensen took a back seat to frontman and Johnny Depp look-alike Josh Bradford, of industrial quartet Stayte. Bradford stole RevCo's show from Owen, Luc Van Acker, and bassist Anna K, as he went from tux shirt and bow-tie during "Fire Engine" and "Let's Get Physical" to topless with a chic black skirt and opera gloves for "Do Ya Think I'm Sexy." Never mind that he stripped buck Satan nekkid for the finale "Purple Head" and modestly covered his genitals with a straw cowboy hat to exit the stage. Ministry's onslaught was less showy, though Jourgensen stepped up the punishing beat with brutal vocal menace, announcing that "Austin, Texas fucking rules!" (Whoa! Never heard that!) and laying waste to new songs like "Fear," "LiesLiesLies," and "No W" ("NWO" reordered, get it?). But the frenetic chanting of "Just One Fix" by an audience likely to be the next generation of hep C patients was creepy. Maybe the shock value of such things loses its worth with age, but Jourgensen was his own toughest act to follow.

– Margaret Moser



GARY MILLER

RALPH WHITE, WEIRD WEEDS, W-S BURN

The Peacock, July 21

From the outside, the Peacock looks like another Eastside dive with bars on the windows. But inside, it looks like a glittering version of a hotel bar in a Raymond Chandler novel. Chandeliers glimmer, peacocks adorn the walls, and women sip martinis; you almost expect Philip Marlowe to stroll by any minute. But we weren't looking for any trouble that night. No, we were there for the Weird Weeds. Knoxville duo and Weird Weeds touring partners W-S Burn kicked off the night with their spare wooze. Singer Amanda Beddard's knockout voice filled every inch of the room as she spun a rickety lamp adorned with dream catchers and wind chimes. Their sound took some getting used to; it was almost like we were watching someone summon a ghost in a David Lynch movie. Weird Weeds' August release *Weird Feelings* (Sounds Are Active) already has buzz surrounding it, and the trio proved it's not bunk. A lot of what the Weeds do borders on pop, but never for long: Nick Hennies provided the erratic drumming and odd percussion, switching from sticks to brushes on the regular; seated guitarist Sandy Ewen switched between a bow, chalk, and other assorted tricks from her bag, wrestling groans from her guitar; Aaron Russell strummed and plucked. Songs were relatively short, but the confines of the dreamy "Tupper" or "In Your Arms," hid screams, unnerving silence, beautiful melodies, urgent drumming, and, on the last song, a triangle. Ralph White was a last-minute fill-in for mysteriously absent Possessed by Paul James, and he was amazing as usual, his haunting banjo taking the remaining crowd back to a time of lonely dames and cigarettes and whiskey.

– Audra Schroeder



COURTNEY CHAVANELL

DANNY BARNES, ROBYN LUDWICK

Cactus Cafe, July 22

To some, a singer-songwriter has become the equivalent of a folk singer. But on Saturday night, Robyn Ludwick and Danny Barnes offered proof of just how far folk music really is from today's typical singer-songwriter wankery. Ludwick opened the show with a set of rawboned songs of life and love presented in a husky voice that recalled an early Lucinda Williams. Mandolin player Matt Slusher (ex-South Austin Jug Band) added complimentary fills and the occasional well-played solo, but Ludwick kept the spotlight with engaging stage presence and some new songs that managed to be rustic and hard-boiled – or as she put it so succinctly, "I've been writing a lot of tough-chick songs lately." Barnes joined in as she was finishing, amplifying the sound with his trademark banjo, resonator guitar, and electric guitar. After a short break, Barnes provided a distinctive and wide-ranging overview of his type of folk, running from guitar rags to death-metal banjo to a guitar tune composed with Robbie Fulks for a movie soundtrack. Concentrating on songs from his latest record, *Get Myself Together* (Terminus), he bobbed, weaved, and scatted his way through humorous originals like "Rat's Ass" and "Breasts," but also made some social commentary on "Wasted Mind," while covering Tim O'Brien's "I'm Running Out of Memory for You" and the Faces' "Ooh La La." Danny then generously lent center stage to Ludwick to end this night of 21st-century folk with a bluesy version of her own "Virginia."

– Jim Caligiuri



TODD V. WOLFSON

DJ SCREWFEST

Pasadena Convention Center, Pasadena, Texas, July 22

With the recent unsolved murder of Houston rapper Big Hawk looming large over its proceedings, the first DJ Screwfest galvanized the resolve of a city in crisis. While advertised promises of a UGK reunion, as well as performances by the likes of Lil' Flip, Devin the Dude, and Mannie Fresh went unfulfilled, the Pasadena Convention Center enjoyed its fair share of defining moments. On an outdoor stage, adjacent to an array of thoroughly enhanced automobiles, the Gritboys, Ghostwriters, and Slim Thug stomped seismic waves through a turf soon to be drenched by a brief afternoon downpour. Once the thousand-something crowd squeezed through the twin doors of the Convention Center Hall, an aura of unity surrounded the Hawkins family table as every rapper on the stage paid their respect to Big Hawk, Fat Pat, and, of course, DJ Screw. As the Botany Boyz ushered in the proper frequencies of a Screwed Up Click session, Chingo Bling and New Orleans bounce king 5th Ward Weebie flooded the common ground between bayou cities. If there was a single person in attendance who failed to be captivated by Lil' O's onslaught of lyricism, fellow SUC member Trae rallied even the dead as he delivered his rendition of "Swang" with child in hand. The cryptic imagery provided healing for a scene seemingly on the verge of a peaceful transcendence.

– Robert Gabriel



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LEAD STORY

Allen Heckard filed a lawsuit in Hillsboro, Ore., in June against Michael Jordan and Nike founder Phil Knight for \$416 million each, charging that they are responsible for his “pain and suffering,” and his “defamation,” in that nearly every day for 15 years, people have mistaken him for Jordan. Heckard admits to being a pretty good basketball player (though 6 inches shorter than Jordan) and to wearing Air Jordans, and in fact curiously told KGW-TV that, all in all, being recognized as Jordan was a “positive” thing. He said he arrived at the “416” figure from multiplying his age by seven (though he appears to be in his 30s, not 59). (Needless to say, Heckard filed the lawsuit without the benefit of a lawyer.)

GOVERNMENT IN ACTION

- Are We Safe? 1) *The Washington Times* reported in June that a retired New York City police officer had nonchalantly passed through the main security checkpoint at Department of Homeland Security headquarters by showing as his only ID a long-obsolete Mexican consulate card. 2) Also in June, Delaware governor Ruth Ann Minner complained that Homeland Security’s secret telephone hotline to governors, intended for emergency communication, was often tied up by telemarketers, and recommended that the department enter the number onto the government’s Do Not Call registry.
- In June, federal judge Fernando Gaitan Jr. ordered Missouri to suspend executions until substantial changes are made in its procedures, including specifying exactly which lethal drugs are to be used and in what quantity. Gaitan also pointed out that the doctor overseeing the state’s executions is dyslexic and may inadvertently be transposing the dosage numbers.
- In April, a dead, decaying cow got caught on a tree branch at a dam near West Milford, W.Va., and remained there for “several weeks,” according to an Associated Press report, grossing out neighbors, while five government jurisdictions declined repeated requests to move it. It was outside West Milford city limits; the state Department of Natural Resources handles only wild animals; the state Environmental Protection people found no ecological danger; the state Agriculture Department called it a local issue; and a regional Water Board also declined. Finally, on May 13, workers from the state Division of Highways, along with local volunteer firefighters, removed it.



BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



A June Associated Press account of a deposition by Michael Jackson, given for an upcoming trial in a lawsuit by a former business associate, reports that Jackson habitually carried no money and got none from his business manager and that his only source of occasional cash was from leasing the cows that grazed on his Neverland Ranch. Lawyer: “So all your cash, whenever you need cash to shop or whatever, comes from the cows?” Jackson: “Yes, believe it or not.” Lawyer: “I don’t, but that’s OK. I don’t have to.” Jackson: “I’m telling you.”

LEAST COMPETENT CRIMINALS

- 1) On June 26, outside the Community Bank in Miami, two men robbed a Brinks-armored truck guard and made a clean getaway, and police have no leads. However, the one bag the men grabbed contained only the bank’s deposit slips. 2) Adam Curtis Hunter, 18, was arrested in Cookeville, Tenn., in June after smashing his car into a house and passing out nearby. When police arrived and found marijuana and drug paraphernalia, and discussed citing Hunter for driving while intoxicated, Hunter objected. According to the police report quoted in the Cookeville *Herald-Citizen*, Hunter said they won’t find marijuana “in his blood because he did not smoke it, he just sold it.”

CLICHÉS COME TO LIFE

- 1) Runway model Tatyana Simanova, 21, was hospitalized in May after she turned the wrong way upon emerging from the restroom of the luxury motor home she was riding in through Brooklyn, N.Y., and fell out the back door into traffic, suffering a broken arm and wrist. Newspaper stories described her as blond. 2) Joseph Zachary, 25, was arrested in Los Angeles in May after allegedly stabbing a man in an altercation; Zachary was dressed as *A Nightmare on Elm Street* villain Freddy Krueger, with knives attached to his gloved fingers. 3) The charismatic Swedish career criminal Jan-Erik Olsson, 64 (whose 1973 bank robbery and accompanying devotion by his hostages originally inspired the term “Stockholm Syndrome”), tried to turn himself in to police

in Helsenborg in May, but one officer apparently found him too likable and encouraged him to stay on the run.

MAJOR MULTITASKING DRIVERS

- 1) Lance Kocses, 30, was cited by police for causing a \$5,000 accident in Seminole, Fla., in May; according to a sheriff’s deputy, Kocses was distracted in making a left turn because he was eating from a bowl of Frosted Flakes. 2) According to a lawsuit filed in June in Minneapolis, the reason Minnesota Timberwolves basketball player Eddie Griffin drove his SUV into the plaintiff’s parked car was that, at the time, he was watching a pornographic video and masturbating. (Police cited Griffin only for inattentive driving.)

NEWS THAT SOUNDS LIKE A JOKE

- 1) In a fundraising project in May, parishioners at the Levenshulme Baptist Church in Manchester, England, staged a car wash, using the church’s leftover holy water. 2) In May, for the second time in two months, prisoners being moved by Chicago police in the department’s new, high-performance transport vans escaped when the vans overturned and the roof’s air-escape-ventilation hatch opened.


POLICE BLOTTER

From the May 25 *Washington Post* Crime Report: “10:55 p.m. May 8. A man directed a driver into a parking space, then grabbed her when she got out of the car. He said, ‘I’m not going to hurt you. You’re a unique person, and I’m a unique person.’ He put a ring on her right index finger and started to chant, then took property from her pocket and fled on foot.”

GREAT ART!

Conservative legislators in Ottawa, as has happened in similar cases, became enraged in June after learning that the Canada Council for the Arts had given \$9,000 (in Canadian dollars) to performance artist Jess Dobkin to stage Lactation Station, a bar serving human breast milk from six contributors in a setting similar to a wine-tasting.

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at newsoftheweird.blogspot.com (or www.newsoftheweird.com). Send your Weird News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnewstips@yahoo.com. ©2004 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



8
limbs of
YOGA

Free Talk by Peggy Kelley
7:30 pm Tuesday, August 1

Peggy Kelley, founder of the Austin Yoga School, will speak on the deeper teachings of yoga. The eight limbs of yoga include hatha yoga, and also techniques for the pranic body and the spiritual body. Deepen your understanding and practice!

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AT 12TH
& TRINITY

[free parking available
in Capitol visitors
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FREE Bring **TWO NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS**
for the **CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK OF TEXAS.**

Proceeds from the day-long raffle to benefit The Capital Area Food Bank of Texas.

FOOD VENDORS WILL PROVIDE A WIDE ARRAY OF FOODS. THIS YEAR THE FOLLOWING RESTAURANTS WILL BE ON HAND SERVING UP THEIR SPECIALTY DISHES: MATT'S EL RANCHO, NUEVA ONDA, NUTTY BROWN CAFE, OAXACAN TAMALEO, SANTA RITA, AND SUN GARDEN SHAVED ICE. CHIPS FOR THE TASTING TENT WILL BE DONATED BY H-E-B.

SUNDAY AUGUST 27, 2006

Capital Metro has more than a dozen ways to get you to the Hot Sauce Festival. After all the sauce and sun, Capital Metro is a great way to chill out and make it home safely.

ROUTES 7/27, 10/20, and 15/16 will drop you off within a block of the park.

CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED BY
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& **LIVE MUSIC**
on the **PLANET K**
STAGE from:

3:30-5pm
**THE TEXAS
SAPPHIRES**



GUY 1:30-3pm
FORSYTH



WHITE GHOST
SHIVERS 12noon-1pm



11-11:30am
NEWBOY



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16th Annual Austin Chronicle HOT SAUCE CONTEST ENTRY FORM

To participate in the contest, fill out this form and check in at Waterloo Park between 10:30 and 11:30am on Sunday, Aug. 27, with two quarts of your best sauce in sturdy plastic disposable containers. We'll take it from there. Send entry form & check or money order payable to *The Austin Chronicle* to: Hot Sauce Contest, Austin Chronicle, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX, 78765. Entry into contest entitles entrant to one T-shirt regardless of number of salsas entered. **Chain restaurants may not enter as individual locations.** Deadline for mail-in entry is Wednesday, Aug. 23, 2006.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

Individuals: \$20 per entry
☐ Red
☐ Green
☐ Special Variety
☐ Pico de Gallo

COMMERCIAL BOTTLERS
PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD
DETERMINED AT EVENT

Restaurants: \$25 per entry
☐ Red (limit 2)
☐ Green (limit 2)
☐ Special Variety (limit 2)
☐ Pico de Gallo (limit 2)

CHAIN RESTAURANTS MAY ENTER
ONLY TWO SAUCES PER CATEGORY.



this week

COMMUNITY LISTINGS

(PLUS HIGHLIGHTS FROM **ARTS, FILM,**
AND **MUSIC**) BY NORA ANKRUM

Thursday 27

CENTRAL TEXAS CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION PUBLIC FORUM SERIES This month's topic: Community Access Television – Endangered. (Forums also air on Austin access TV, cable Channel 10, on Thursdays, 7-8pm.) 6-7pm. *Cafe Caffeine*, 909 W. Mary, 459-5829. Free. ruthaclu@sbcglobal.net.

GET MADE HAPPY HOUR This monthly event features free appetizers, makeovers, massages, and live music, plus, of course, shopping – and this month, you get 30% off anything with the color white on it. 7-9pm. *Flirt*, 2405 Nueces Ste. H, 472-4440.

INSTRUMENTS FOR PEACE RALLY Bring your instruments, along with your signs, banners, flags, and costumes, and let everyone know how you feel about the war in Iraq. 5:30-6:30pm. *Pfluger Pedestrian Bridge, First & Lamar*. www.instrumentsforpeace.org.

INTERACTION OF PEN, PAPER, AND SCRIBE: THE TECHNICAL AND AESTHETIC FORCES THAT SHAPE OUR LETTERFORMS Did you know that the English written language employs every principle and symbol of hieroglyphic writing, including the “order and direction of the strokes” of the letters? Find out all about it in this presentation from Southwestern College (California) art history professor Mark van Stone. 7pm. *Harry Ransom Center*, 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. Free.

MEETIN.ORG GELATO SOCIAL Meetin.org is a social club with no membership fees and no pressure to do anything more than have low-key fun with friends. 7-9pm. *Paciugo*, 241 W. Second, 474-7600. www.meetinaustin.org.

the young ones

BASIC SPANISH FOR MOMMY & ME teaches Spanish to children and their parents through craft, story, and movement; this is the last week of the program. 2:15-3pm. *Terra Toys*, 2438 W. Anderson, 445-4489. Free.

DON'T WAIT ... VACCINATE! All AISD students have to be fully immunized by the first day of school, **Aug. 15**. Immunizations, including some free and low-cost, are available at the following clinics: **Seton Community Health Centers** (McCarthy/324-4930, South/324-4940, Topfer/324-6850), **City of Austin Community Care Services Department** (Rosewood-Zaragoza/972-4792, South/972-4722, Northeast/972-4622, East/972-4322), **Shots for Tots** (two locations/972-5520), **ATCHHS Neighborhood Centers Public Health Nursing Program** (South/972-6854, Rosewood-Zaragoza/972-6790, St. John's/972-5787, mobile van/311), **People's Community Clinic** (708-3199), **Skippy Express AISD/Student Health Services** (various locations/414-6171), **Austin Regional Clinic** (Far West/346-6611, Brodie Lane/282-8967), and **Austin Area CareVan** (various locations/217-1220). www.austinisd.org/academic/parentinfo.

REGISTRATION FOR STUDENTS IN NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC SCHOOLS Hurricane evacuees planning to register children for the upcoming school year (which begins Thu., Sept. 7) in New Orleans' Recovery School District may do so online or by phone until all spaces are full; however, you must visit a New Orleans registration center in person by 5pm, Aug. 12, to provide signatures and required documentation. 877/453-2721. www.nolapublicschools.net.

ACT REGISTRATION ends **Fri., Aug. 18** for you college-bound high schoolers out there. (Late registration ends **Fri., Aug. 25**, but will cost extra.) Regular fee: \$29 (\$43, with Writing Test). www.actstudent.org.

SATURDAY MORNING FILM CLUB Free kids movies every last Saturday of the month! This time around it's *Angels With Dirty Faces*. (See Special Screenings) Noon. *Alamo Drafthouse South*, 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320. www.originalalamo.com.

SUMMER SATURDAY SCAVENGER HUNTS Come by the store for the rules and the official List of Items, then return as many as possible by 6pm – first prize is a \$15 Terra Toys gift certificate. *Terra Toys*, 2438 W. Anderson, 445-4489. Free.

POWER OF THE CROSS FESTIVAL VOLUNTEER MEETING This Christian-music fest, in anticipation of an audience 10,000 fans strong, needs volunteers to help everything run smoothly. Call to find out more or to attend today's meeting. *Bethany United Methodist Church*, 10010 Anderson Mill, 219-1097.

WILLIAMSON CO. DEMOCRATIC PARTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING is open to all voters interested in helping Democratic candidates get elected in Williamson County. 7pm. *McConico Building*, 103 W. Bagdad Ave., Round Rock, 512/671-VOTE. www.williamsoncountymocrats.org.

WORD ON THE STREET 2: LAID BACK SOCIETY MCS & DJS DiverseArts presents an evening of creative community-building, as part of the **East End Summer Music Series**. BYOB. 7pm. *Kenny Dorham's Backyard*, 1106 E. 11th, 477-9438. \$5 (free, kids under 12). www.diversearts.org.

THEATRE (See Arts Listings)
American Fiesta

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts)
Austin Visual Arts Association Gallery

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Dirt @ *Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek*, 7:30pm
Some Like It Hot @ *Paramount*, 9:20pm
The Seven Year Itch @ *Paramount*, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings)
Diplo, Cansei de Ser Sexy *The Parish*
Born to Lose *Beerland*
The Church *La Zona Rosa*

SUMMER MUSICAL FOR CHILDREN: BONKERS' MAGIC TOY FACTORY is sure to keep your clown-loving kinder of ages 3-10 entertained with colorful shenanigans and sprightly tunes. July 29-Aug. 6. Sat.-Sun., 1 & 4pm. *Scottish Rite Theatre*, 207 W. 18th, 472-7247. Free. www.summermusical.com.

ROLLERBATS ASPHALT ASSAULT TOUR The Ice Bats offer Saturday **inline hockey clinics** for 6- to 13-year-olds, with skills and safety demos from the Ice Bats players themselves, as well as inline hockey scrimmages. Bring your own skates, stick, and helmet. Through Aug. 12. Sat., July 29, 10am-noon. *Academy Sports & Outdoors*, 5400 Brodie Lane (Sunset Valley). www.icebats.com.

BOOKKIDS READER'S REVIEW BOOKCLUB is for all the 10- to 14-year-old future literary critics out there. Kids who attend the meetings get to read advance copies of soon-to-be-published books. How cool is that? After reading a book, they write a brief review of it and send feedback to the publisher. It's a lot of fun, and there's always a great discussion going on! Sat., July 29, 2pm. *BookPeople*, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.

51,000 Austin-Area Kids Can't Afford School Supplies This Year



BACK-TO-SCHOOL FUNDRAISERS

BACKPACK DRIVE Women Supporting Women is making sure all Austin students have the school supplies they need this fall. You can help, **Friday, July 28**, by dropping off **new backpacks filled with back-to-school supplies** at: *Rosy Home Health Care*, 3724 Airport Blvd., noon-3pm; *Kenny Dorham's Backyard*, 1106 E. 11th, 6-9pm; *George Washington Carver Museum*, 1165 E. Angelina, 4-6pm. *George Washington Carver Museum & Cultural Center*, 1165 Angelina, 419-1001.

BLUE JEANS AND BLUE BELL The *Olivet Helping Hands Center* is collecting jeans for prekindergarten through 12th-grade students as part of the **2006 Back to School Clothing Drive and Backpack Giveaway**. And today they'll trade you your new or gently used pair of jeans for some delicious Blue Bell ice cream. Isn't that nice of them? **Saturday, July 29, 10am-2pm**. *Olivet Helping Hands Center*, 1151 San Bernard, 472-2298.

FOR THE CHILDREN is raising funds for purchasing **school supplies** for Austin-area prekindergarten through fifth-grade students who can't afford them. You can drop off supplies (glue, scissors, pocket folders, pencils, crayons, spiral notebooks, filler paper) at any HEB store until **Mon., Aug. 14**; however, monetary donations go further, since *For the Children* can buy in bulk at prices far below retail. As little as \$40 can provide the basics for 10 students. To donate money, visit the Web site or mail a check to: *For the Children*, PO Box 29346, Austin 78755. 505-5712. www.schoolsuppliesforthechildren.org.

CENTER FOR CHILD PROTECTION is collecting **backpacks and school supplies** for children (prekindergarten through 12th grade) who've been affected by domestic abuse. They'll accept donations online through **Wed., Aug. 9**, and in person through **Mon., Aug. 7**, at the following locations: *Center for Child Protection*, 1110 E. 32nd (weekdays, 8am-5pm); *McCormick & Schmick's*, 401 Congress Ave. 472-1164. www.centerforchildprotection.org.

Friday 28

AUSTIN CABARET THEATRE'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISING GALA A formal sit-down dinner and silent auction with music from **Russ Lorenson** and a special performance from **Eartha Kitt**, all to benefit the ACT's educational outreach programming. 6pm. *Mansion at Judges' Hill*, 1900 Rio Grande, 453-ACTS. \$175. www.austincabaret.org.

AUSTIN NOKIDDING! HAPPY HOUR For happily child-free adults; followed by dinner somewhere nearby. 5:30-7pm. *Mean-Eyed Cat*, 1621 W. Fifth. Free. www.austinnokidding.com.

CRITICAL MASS Take back the streets! (See Sports) 5pm. *UT West Mall*, near 23rd & Guadalupe. www.criticalmassrides.info/austin.html.

EAST END FOURTH FRIDAY Every fourth Friday, 11th Street has artists, face painters, exhibits, kids activities, live entertainment, and food stretching all the way from Branch to Navasota. Expect lots of open houses and discounts from area merchants, as well, and don't forget to head down to *Kenny Dorham's Backyard* afterward for this month's headlining performance from **Miss Lavelle White**. 477-9438.

GREEN DRINKS MEETING Informal happy hour for people who work in fields that deal with environmental issues. This month: BYOB; teas and snacks provided; please do not wear perfume/cologne. 5-7pm. *White Hall Co-op*, 2500 Nueces. www.greeninksaustin.blogspot.com.

THIRD ANNUAL TEEN FEST Games, prizes, food, slam poetry, and live music for all you teens out there who completed Austin Public Library's summer-reading program. (As if reading wasn't its own reward.) Sat., July 29, 2-4pm. *Carver Library*, 1161 Angelina, 974-7400. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

BOOKKIDS CELEBRATES a special story time with works by Mem Fox. Listen to *Where Is the Green Sheep?*, *Time for Bed*, *Hunwick's Egg*, and others. Sat., July 29, 2:30pm. *BookPeople*, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.

SUNDAY MORNING KID SHOW Bring your instruments, and drum with Mr. Steve! Sun., July 30, 10:30am. *Ruta Maya*, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. *Tips appreciated*. www.rutamaya.net.

ACE TEDDY BEAR HOSPITAL Got a one-eyed teddy bear with stuffing falling out of his belly? Just bring him (or your favorite doll or blanket) by any *Ace Tailors* location, and they'll fix him up for a small donation (\$5-10). *Ace* will then match that donation and give all proceeds to AISD's early-literacy program, the Pre-Kindergarten Demonstration School. **Mon.-Sun., July 31-Aug. 6**. www.acetailors.com.

AISD TRANSFER REQUEST DEADLINE Don't forget: **Tue., Aug. 1**, is the final day students can apply for a school transfer. www.austin.isd.tenet.edu.

CRITICAL PATH TO COLLEGE ADMISSIONS Calling all parents and high school students: Helmed by Robert Franek, director of the Princeton Review and author of *The Best 361 Colleges*, this free seminar aims to answer your toughest questions about college admissions. **Tue., Aug. 1, 7pm**. *Barnes & Noble Westlake*, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

CHILD SAFETY SEAT INSPECTIONS Did you know that 97% of the seats inspected in Austin and surrounding areas are found to be installed or used incorrectly? Hopefully these free, once-a-month safety inspections from the Travis County Sheriff's Office will lower that number. Call to schedule your inspection. **First Wednesdays, 10am-12:30pm**. *Del Valle Adult Softball Complex*, 3400 FM 973, Del Valle, 854-4194.

SUMMERSTOCK: THE STINKY CHEESE MAN AND OTHER FAIR(LY) STOOPID TALES Comedy fun for the whole family, as performed by high school and college students under the direction of Michael McKelvey. **Thu.-Fri., Aug. 3-4, 10am**. *Mary Moody Northern Theatre* at St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 448-8484. \$5.



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INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT HAPPY HOUR IBP lives it up every other Friday, sending books to Texas prisoners, sorting mail, processing prisoners' book requests, etc. 5:30-7:30pm. *Rhizome Collective*, 300 Allen, 385-3695. www.insidebooksproject.com.
LIVE FROM THE PLAZA Latin at Heart's playing today, with Las Manitas on-hand serving chicken fajitas and flautas for \$6 a plate. *Noon-1pm. Austin City Hall*, 301 W. Second, 974-2000. Free. www.ci.austin.tx.us/music/calendar.htm.

MUSIC UNDER THE STAR Every Friday throughout July, there'll be free music under the giant star in the Texas History Museum's Lone Star Plaza. Bring the family and some blankets for them to sit on, but please, no coolers or drinks. Tonight features a performance from renaissance folk-rock band **Mundi**. 6-9pm. *Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum*, 1800 Congress, 936-8746. www.thestoryoftexas.com.

NAVIGATING BREAST CANCER TOGETHER MEETING for newly diagnosed women and their primary support partners. 6-8:30pm. *St. David's Health Resource Center*, 3000 N. I-35, 472-1738 x100.

TRANCEDANCE Blindfolded dance to bring you closer to your higher self. 7:30-9:30pm. *NiaSpace*, 3212 S. Congress, 586-2736. \$15. www.trancedance-austin.com, www.shamanicpassages.com.

COMEDY (See Arts Listings)
Matt Bearden *Velveeta Room*

LITERA (See Arts Listings)
Mike Henry: 24-Hour Nonstop Slam
Progress Coffee

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts)
Bolm Studios

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Raiders of the Lost Ark: The Adaptation @ *Alamo Downtown*, 7, 9:45
Some Like It Hot @ *Paramount*, 9:20pm
The Seven Year Itch @ *Paramount*, 7pm
Videoke @ *Alamo Village*, 12mid

Saturday 29

★ **BUTTERFLIES, DRAGONFLIES, AND SUMMERTIME THINGS FESTIVAL** A little something for everyone: vendor booths with handmade jewelry, clothing, birdhouses, and more; experts on gardening, resource-protection, and butterflies; classes (backyard birding, yoga); a pesto-making contest and photo contest (bring your favorite butterfly and dragonfly pics); demonstrations (tai chi!); plus live music, and a drum circle. 9am-5pm. *Bastrop Gardens*, 316 Old 71, 303-5672. www.bastropgardens.com.

EAT DRINK AUSTIN DINING CLUB An evening of "tapas and 'tinis" – making the former and drinking the latter. 6:30-8:30pm. *Gina's Kitchen*, 917 W. 12th, 236-0705. www.eatanddrinkaustin.com.

FROM THE STUDIO TO PUBLIC ART Hear from artists experienced in transitioning from studio art, learn how traditionally nondurable materials can be used in public artwork, and find out how to apply for project funding. 11am-1pm. *play! Theatre*, 1204 Cedar, 974-9308. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/aipp.

★ **MICHELLE HARRISON BENEFIT** Harrison was in a serious car accident, and she now requires rehabilitation that her family can't afford. Proceeds from tonight's auction and show (from **Chris Gates & Gatesville** and **Topaz**) will help keep her on the

track to recovery. 6pm. *Iron Cactus North*, 10001 Stonelake Blvd., 794-8778. \$15 (includes food). www.angelsformichelle.com.

NARAL PRO-CHOICE SUMMER MOVIE SERIES presents live music, a silent auction, door prizes, and a screening of *Citizen Ruth*. 8:30pm. *Spider House*, 2908 Fruth, 480-9562. laurie@prochoicetexas.org.

PAWTY IN THE PAWKING LOT Looking for something fun to do with your favorite pets today? Bring them out to the Pawty, a fundraiser for the Chase Memorial Veterinary Hospital stray fund. They're hoping at least to raise enough money to fix Snoopy's cleft palette, and they'll be giving away prizes, samples, people food, and photos of you and your pet. Area rescue groups (including Doberman Rescue and the House Rabbit Resource Network) will also be there with information for those looking to adopt. 10am-2pm. *FM 1325 & Wells Branch Parkway*, 246-7600.

★ **PEOPLE'S LAW SCHOOL: THE 411 ON THE LAW** This free legal seminar addresses family, probate, and consumer law. Attend one of two available sessions at 10:30 or 11:30am. *Carver Library*, 1161 Angelina, 472-8954.

REALIZE AMERICA DAY Sahaja Yoga Meditation focuses on meditating for self-realization, or connecting to your "innermost self," and there are events being held all over the country today to teach newbies how to do it: *Austin Recreation Center*, 1301 Shoal Creek, 11am-noon; *Round Rock Public Library*, 216 E. Main, Round Rock, 5-6pm. www.realizeamerica.com.



Snoopy

day TRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

Perini Ranch Steakhouse looks like an old ranch barn that has seen better days. From the oak-tree-shaded parking lot baked to a fine powder, the faded boards and tin roof of the restaurant can belie the culinary wonders happening on the other side of the walls.

On the outskirts of Buffalo Gap, a little more than 15 miles south of Abilene, and almost a four-hour drive from Austin, Perini serves up what must be one of the best steaks in a state known for its beefsteaks. The dry pepper rub on the carefully selected cuts of meat cooked over a mesquite fire makes the difference. Don't come in a hurry because each steak is cooked with due consideration by the ranch hands sweating over the hot coals.

Perini is no poser when it comes to ranch cooking. Tom Perini started cooking from the back of a chuck wagon on his family ranch in 1973. By 1983, he opened his now-famous restaurant in a former hay barn on the ranch.

Over the years, the business has grown with the accolades. While the outside of the restaurant may still look like an old barn, on the inside, it is more like visiting a rancher's cabin. The establishment has grown by adding more rooms, some with fireplaces and decorated with longhorn horns. Out back on the patio are picnic tables shaded from the evening sun. When every seat is filled, the restaurant and patio can hold more than 1,000 diners. The cowboy chic emphasizes the food, not the decor.

Professional food critics around the state and the country have taken notice of the rustic restaurant on the range. Among the awards is a certificate, from a national magazine, calling Perini one of the 20 best steakhouses in the West. *Southern Living* magazine featured the steakhouse on its cover, and the Hill Country Wine & Food Festival gave Perini a Critic's Choice award for his beef tenderloin.

The house specialties are the grilled 16-ounce rib eye, pepper New York strip steaks, and the 8-ounce filet. Each is a beautiful cut of meat, tender enough to cut with a butter knife. It would be a shame to smother the subtle smoky flavor with a steak sauce.

The menu also includes sandwiches, pork ribs, and catfish. The hamburger alone is a two-fisted affair with the ingredients laid out on the plate for custom assembly. You can also get a grilled chicken breast or a sliced rib-eye sandwich.

Nowhere is the restaurant's attention to detail more evident than in preparation of the dinner salad that comes with the entrées or as a side. The salad comes with three kinds of lettuce and enough mushrooms, radish slices, and tomatoes to give it some substance and flavor.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

Restaurant on the range

The chef's creativity really shows in the side dishes. One of his signature dishes is the Zucchini Perini, which is baked in an Italian meat sauce. The Green Chile Hominy comes with seasoned white hominy mixed with bacon, chilies, and cheddar cheese; this might change your opinion of hominy.

It won't be easy, but you will want to save room for dessert. The Perini Ranch Bread Pudding is a new twist on an old favorite. The sourdough bread and pecans come soaked in a whiskey sauce that is not too sweet but very buttery. For the less adventuresome, the strawberry shortcake is made with homemade biscuits. The more adventuresome should try the cheesecake topped with jalapeño jelly.

Perini Ranch Steakhouse is about a mile south of Buffalo Gap off Ranch Road 89, the same road that leads to Abilene State Park. The staff is rustling up some grub Wednesday through Thursdays, 5 to 10pm; and Friday to Sunday, 11:30am to 10pm. Reservations are recommended for weekend evenings (325/572-3339).

On Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday lunch, the menu includes a buffet table with fried chicken, catfish, mashed potatoes, and that wonderful bread pudding. Tom Perini can often be seen catering fine cowboy affairs around the state. The steakhouse's famous beef tenderloin and other products are available from www.periniranch.com.

788th in a series. **Day Trips, Vol. 2**, a book of *Day Trips* 101-200, is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: *Day Trips*, P.O. Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.

out of town

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

SEA TURTLE RELEASES have begun at Padre Island National Seashore outside of Corpus Christi and will continue throughout the summer. For information on the next chance to see the 4-inch-long hatchlings make their dash for the surf, call the hotline at 361/949-7163 or go see the Web site. www.nps.gov/pais.

BLUE HOLE IS OPEN These cool, cypress-tree-shaded waters are open for swimming daily until Labor Day. *Weekdays, 10am-6pm, Fri. & Sat., 10am-8pm. Blue Hole*, Wimberley, 512/634-6179.

POWER PATHOS is a new exhibit featuring the art of Daniel Johnston, Ron English, Gibby Haynes, Clark Fox, and Anthony Ausgang. *Through Sept. 24. Wed.-Sun., 11am-6pm. Station Museum of Contemporary Art*, 1502 Alabama St., Houston, 713/529-6900. www.stationmuseum.com.

GREAT TEXAS MOSQUITO FESTIVAL celebrates the Texas Coast's least-favorite bug with arts & crafts, food, carnival rides, and a variety of contests and music. *Thu.-Sat., July 27-29. Municipal Park*, Clute, 800/371-2971. www.mosquitofestival.com.

THE HILL COUNTRY IS ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF MUSIC when the local theatre group stages this Rodgers and Hammerstein play about a singing nun. *July 27-Aug. 13. Thu.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2:15pm. Hill Country Community Theatre*, 4003 W. FM 2147, Cottonwood Shores (outside of Marble Falls), 830/693-2474. www.hcct.org.

NATIONAL HANG GLIDING & PARAGLIDING FLY-IN brings together pilots for around the Southwest trying to beat their per-

RONALD R. DAVIS will be talking about his book *Zachary Scott: Hollywood's Sophisticated Cad*, and yes, it's about the Zach Scott, the one you're thinking of, which is why it's taking place the *Zachary Scott Theatre*, 1510 Toomey. 6pm. 476-0541 x1. Free. www.zachscott.com.

USING THE GRASSROOTS MEDIA TO STIMULATE SOCIAL CHANGE A forum on using technology and the media to create public awareness of Austin's housing problems, from affordability and sustainability to historical preservation and gentrification. E-mail to RSVP 9:30am-3pm. *Victory Grill*, 1104 E. 11th, 391-0174. Free. austinmediajustice@gmail.com.

WRIGHT SALE The **Wright House Wellness Center** is having a yard sale to raise funds for people living with HIV and other life-threatening illnesses. Furniture, clothing, toys, and such items are welcome and available. Food and drinks available as well. 2324 E. Cesar Chavez, 236-8901. www.thewrighthouse.org.

YELLER DAWG DEMOCRATS BRUNCH & DISCUSSION 11am. *Tres Amigos*, 1801 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 327-1776. bmcafee@austin.rr.com.

YOGA FOR ASTHMA AND NASAL ALLERGY 4-5:15pm. *Yoga Solutions*, 10008 Mount Rainier Dr., 963-8364. Donations accepted. yogasolutions@gmail.com.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Annie Hall @ *Paramount*, 7pm
Funny Girl @ *Paramount*, 3:15pm
Hannah and Her Sisters @ *Paramount*, 9:10pm
Raiders of the Lost Ark: The Adaptation @ *Alamo Drafthouse Downtown*, 7, 9:45

sonal best flights. *Fri.-Sun., July 28-30. Real County Airport*, Leakey, 830/232-6186. www.flexwing.org/txopen.

HARVEST CELEBRATION Celebrate the harvesting of the new grape crop with food, demonstrations, and grape picking and stomping. *Sat.-Sun., July 22-23, 29-30. Messina Hof Winery & Resort*, 4545 Old Reliance Rd., Bryan. 979/778-9463 x34. www.messinahof.com.

ARTS ENCOUNTERS features photographer Jeff Rowe, ceramics expert Mike Maquire, photographer Susan Dunkerley, and batologist Colleen Gardner talking about their work and other topics. *Sat.-Sun., July 29-30, 1:30 & 3:30pm. Benini Foundation Sculpture Ranch*, Johnson City, 830/868-5244.

www.artsencountersatbeninis.com.

SALADO LEGENDS weaves the legends of the Tonkawa Indians, the dreams of the Spanish explorers, and the hopes of the Scottish settlers into a panoramic outdoor musical drama. *Sat., July 29. Tablerock Festival Grounds*, Salado, 254/947-9205. www.tablerock.org.

RUNNING OF THE BULL isn't your ordinary small-town festival. Only loosely modeled after its Spanish namesake, this event celebrates the gift of gab with cowboy poets, dancers, jokesters, punsters, singers, and tongue twisters trying to keep from being gored by the crowd. There will also be arts & crafts vendors, food, and a miniature midway. *Sat., July 29, 10am-5pm; Sun., July 30, noon-5pm. Courthouse lawn*, Eldorado, 325/226-2890.

SHAKESPEARE UNDER THE STARS presents *Taming of the Shrew* and *Midsummer Night's Dream* on consecutive nights in the outdoor theatre. *Mon.-Sat., July 31-Aug.12, 8:30pm (no Sunday performances)*. *EmilyAnn Theatre*, Wimberley, 512/847-6969. www.emilyann.org.

Sunday 30

BEMBE CONNECTION Open dance with live Afro-Cuban percussion. 7-9pm. Art Amici, 79 San Marcos St., 444-0371 or 657-5880. bembeconnection@hotmail.com.

FAB-100 EXHIBIT The FAB-100 were officers from the Chinese Military who served as interpreters for the U.S. at the end of World War II, some of them stationed here in Austin at the Bergstrom Army Air Field. Six of the original 100 men are in town today to help celebrate the grand unveiling of a new permanent display at the airport commemorating their heroic efforts, and the ceremony will be officiated by Mayor Pro Tem Betty Dunkerley and Houston's Chinese Consul General Hua Jinshou. 1pm. *Austin Bergstrom International Airport*. www.asianamericanc.com.

INSIDE BOOKS VOLUNTEER NIGHT 7pm-12mid. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695.

LIBERTARIAN DISCUSSION GROUP 6:30pm. Hickory Street Bar & Grille, 800 Congress, 477-8968. Free. www.groups.yahoo.com/group/libertarian.

SINGLE PARENT RESOURCE NETWORK'S potluck, playgroup, and clothing/stuff swap. Noon. Pease Park, Windsor & Lamar, 694-5272. Free. www.sprn.org.

SUNDAY ON SUNDAYS On Sundays throughout July, you'll get your very own **Amy's Ice Creams** **sundae for donating blood** at the Blood and Tissue Center. 10am-4pm. Blood & Tissue Center of Central Texas, 4300 N. Lamar, 206-1266; Hotline, 733-3333.

TONNATHON Our good friend (and former *Chronicle* intern) **Jeff Tonn** is extremely ill. So far no doctor's been able to diagnose or treat him, and his illness has left him bedridden for more than six months now. This **silent auction** and **raffle** will help offset his living expenses (as he cannot work) and the medical costs of his ongoing search for a diagnosis. **Low Line Caller, Bello Ragazzo**, and **Supercontinent** will be playing. Visit his Web site for more information on his condition. 8pm-12mid. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. \$5. www.jefftonn.com.

UNTITLED So-called because they don't subscribe to labels, this group of "post-college, pre-kids" young professionals hopes to offer an alternative to mainstream church and meets regularly to discuss life and faith. 10am. Quad 5C at Riverbend Church, 4214 Capital of TX Hwy. N. www.riverbend.com.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Annie Hall @ Paramount, 7pm
Fire in the Water @ Alamo Downtown, 4:30pm
Funny Girl @ Paramount, 3:15pm
Hannah and Her Sisters @ Paramount, 9:10pm

Monday 31

AUSTIN AGAINST WAR MEETING 7pm. 2107 San Antonio, 323-9778. aaw@austinagainstawar.org, www.austinagainstawar.org.


EMOTIONS ANONYMOUS MEETING Twelve steps to emotional health. 7:30-8:30pm. Shoal Creek Hospital, cafeteria annex, 3501 Mills Ave. www.emotionsanonymous.org.

FREE LEGAL ADVICE These night clinics offer child care and are right on the bus line. 6-7pm. Martin Middle School, 1601 Haskell.

HEALING HYPNOSIS GROUP SESSIONS These weekly gatherings meet at Zilker's rock garden picnic site: **Weight Loss Management** focuses on reaching your goal weight and increasing your fitness and energy level (6:30-7:30pm). **Stop Smoking Now!** helps you reduce your smoking by five cigarettes a day until you're at zero (7:45-8:45pm). Zilker Park, 2100 Barton Springs Rd., 974-6700. \$15. www.healinghypnosis.org.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS MEETING Do you worry about the way you eat? Overeaters Anonymous may have the answer for you. No weigh-ins, dues, or fees. Call for location. 327-2802. Free. www.oa.org.

SKILLPOINT ALLIANCE EDUCATOR COLLOQUIUM invites teachers, parent organizations, school administrators, and legislators to come together to address Texas' most pressing public-education



FASCISM?

AUSTIN CITIZENS
FOR 9/11 TRUTH
GROUP

will sponsor a free event with author
DAVIDSON LOEHR
author of "America, Fascism + God"
and the 2005 documentary

"Martial Law"
Wednesday, August 2, 7pm
 First Unitarian Church / 4700 Grover / 452-6168

The focus of this evening is to both explore the
events of 9/11 and to put the resulting drastic
changes in American life since that day in context.

National Poetry Slam




Aug. 09-12 | Austin TX


www.nps2006.com

The biggest poetry slam in history. Ego's, The Hideout, Sky Lounge [2 stages], Ruta Maya, Opal Divine's + many more. Free workshops + panel discussions in the a.m., parties + late night showcases after the bouts each night [hit website for the goods]. 75 teams of poets. 4 days. 1 winner.

Slam Bouts - Wed, Aug 09 + Thu, Aug 10
 Individual Finals - Fri, Aug 11 / Paramount Theatre
 Team Finals - Sat, Aug 12 / Palmer Events Center

NPS06 | Celebrating 20yrs of Slam



Soul Travel -


Exploring the Worlds of God

- Discover Yourself as Soul
- Explore the Heavens
- Ride the Wave of Divine Love

Home to God

A FREE four-week workshop
August 1, 8, 15 & 22 Tuesday evenings
 from 7:00-8:30 pm
Austin ECKANKAR Center
 EXECUTIVE OFFICE TERRACE COMPLEX, SUITE B-206
453-0331 • www.eckankar-texas.org
 HWY 183 ACCESS ROAD AT NORTHCREST. BETWEEN LAMAR AND IH 35.
 BEHIND THE RED LOBSTER. CALL FOR DIRECTIONS.
 Presented by Texas Satsang Society, A Chartered Affiliate of ECKANKAR

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You Cantú
Watch Fred Cantú

42 K-EYE
 AUSTIN, TEXAS
 COVERAGE YOU CAN COUNT ON

WEEKDAY MORNINGS AT 5AM

the GAY place

BY KATE X MESSER AND KATE GETTY

PEACHES! EODM! Tix are selling like ho-cakes: Huh? What? Right. Uhh. *Saturday, July 29. Emo's, 603 Red River, 477-EMOS. [www.emosaustin.com](#).*

HANG OUT UT The queer-supportive UT social group wel-comes gay, straight, bi-, trans-, whomever to join the ranks and have fun! The goal is community; freshmen/new-UTers are encouraged to look them up. The summer is heating up with plans for a San Antonio jaunt to **Bonham Exchange**. Check the Web site for more events and how to get in touch. *[www.comehangout.net](#).*

AMERICAN FIESTA What's gayer than a guy who collects colorful, deco dinnerware? Maybe his boyfriend. Come check out the **State Theatre's** revival of **Steve Tomlinson's** one-man ode to Americana through the world of vintage dishes. Held at the UT PAC. *Thu., July 27-Sun., Aug. 13. Performing Arts Center, 23rd & Robert Dedman Dr., 866/443-8849. \$10-27. [www.gettix.net](#), [www.austintheatre.org](#).*

WAG LIKE YOU MEAN IT The first ever **Wag Your TAIL Dog Walk** happens the third week of September. Canines and their pals will strut to promote what dogs know: TAIL – “Tolerance, Acceptance, Inclusion and Love.” Register now for prizes and for TAILS in Training around Town Lake. The walk will benefit **Human Rights Campaign** and **Forgotten Friends Dog Rescue**. *Sat., Sept. 23. 484-0811, 698-4937. [www.wagyourtail.org](#).*

RRRRRRRRROOOOOWWWWWWW! Hello, kittens. **Eartha Kitt** lands in Austin, courtesy of **Austin Cabaret**, old chum! *Friday, July 28, 6pm, cocktails; 7pm, dinner; 8:30pm show. Mansion at Judges' Hill, 1900 Rio Grande, 453-ACTS. \$175-300. [www.austincabaret.org](#).*

WILDE ABOUT THE ZACH ... AS ALWAYS The new hit drama ***I Am My Own Wife*** hits the stage tonight. Join Zach and Co. for its LGBT night, fit with a preshow mixer (light appetizers, bar) and one thriller of a performance. *Thu., July 27, 6:45pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1, 476-0541.*

IN ON IT Can a gay, middle-aged couple ever get beyond the issues that stand between them and love each other fully? God, we hope so. Starring **Scotty Roberts** and the *Chronicle's* own **Robert Faires**. *Thu.-Sat., 8pm, through July*

29. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 371-0554. \$17 (\$10, stu-dents; Thursdays, pay what you can). [www.thedirigogroup.com](#).

NARAL SUMMER MOVIES Come check out this second in a series of three films: ***Citizen Ruth*** Seating is limited. E-mail to RSVP *Sat., July 29, 8:30pm, film at 9pm. Spider House, 2908 Fruth, 462-1661. [laurie@prochoicetexas.org](#).*

SECRET NEW MOANING NEIGHBORS Sexy, sexy, sexy bill: those red hot **Moaners** from N.C., **Secret Weapon**, and the ever-darling **Darling New Neighbors**. Take our word for it: plenty o' eye and ear candy for the ladies. Ooooh. *Mon., July 31. Emo's, 603 Red River, 477-EMOS. [www.secret-weapons.com](#), [www.myspace.com/themoaners](#), [www.darlingnewneighbors.com](#).*

TACT Transgender Advocates of Central Texas is an advoca-cy group dedicated to furthering the cause of Gender Diverse people in Central Texas through education in both private and public forums. *TACT meets the first Tuesday of the month. 448-6354.*

UTTER READING SERIES Trinity prof **Andrew Porter** and local poet and **Alive in Truth** founder **Abe Louise Young** read. Out loud. *Tue., Aug. 1, 7pm. BookPeople.*

CHAINDRIVE WEDNESDAYS Denton's **Teenage Symphony**, the **Shells**, and **Economy**, plus DJs from **Rich Girls Are Weeping**. Take advantage of the dark patios. *Wed., Aug. 2. Chain Drive, 504 Willow, 480-9017. Free.*

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY'S DIALOGUE helps lesbian cancer patients, families, and friends cope. *First and third Wednesdays, 5:30pm. St. David's Health Resource Center, 3000 N. I-35, 919-1911.*

QUEERTOWN'S COMING ... SOON! Political satire and sketch comedy with a rainbow of fruit flava comes back to our town. Witness Gaybraham Lincoln, what happens when the “bad boys” of the law really do come for you, and have yourself a gay ol' time. *Wed., Aug. 2, 8pm; Wed., Sept. 6, 8pm; Wed., Oct. 4, 8pm. Esther's Follies Theatre, 525 E. Sixth, 214/320-0553. \$15.*

For more gay stuff, see Calendar online: [austinchronicle.com](#). Send gay bits to [gayplace@austinchronicle.com](#).

issues, including funding, test scores, gradu-ation rates, and dropout rates. *8am-3pm. J.J. Pickle Research Campus, Commons Center, 10100 Burnet Rd. [www.skillpointalliance.com](#).*

TIBETAN BUDDHIST FORMAL COURSES 7-9pm. 2700 W. Anderson Ln. #320. *[www.lonestardiamonds.org](#).*

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings) ***The Fall*** @ Alamo Downtown, 7:30pm

Tuesday 01

23RD ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT All over the country tonight there are block parties, parades, and cookouts to celebrate community-oriented crime prevention. Join your neighbors in learning how to prevent crime in your area. *7-10pm. [www.nno.org](#), [www.ci.austin.tx.us/police/nno.htm](#).*

AUSTIN/CAPITAL CITY BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S MONTHLY NETWORKING LUNCHEON *11:30am-1pm. Tien Hong, 8301 Burnet Rd., 459-6922. Free (lunch not included). [austinpww@yahoo.com](#).*

DRINKING LIBERALLY meets weekly so that liberal and progressive types can drink and talk politics with like-minded citizens. *6:30pm. The Dog & Duck Pub, 406 W. 17th, 479-0598. [austin@drinkingliberally.org](#), [www.drinkingliberally.org](#).*

GUIDED-IMAGERY MEDITATION for begin-ners or those who haven't the proper medi-tation space at home. *RSVP 7-8pm. Wellness by Design, 4701 Westgate Ste. C-301. Donations accepted. [www.wellnessbydesign.us](#).*

HOUSE THE HOMELESS MEETING *3-4pm. 500 E. Seventh. [www.universallivingwage.org](#).*

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS WEEKLY MEETING *Odd Fellows Hall, 6809 Guadalupe. [www.capitol23.com](#).*

★ LATINITAS MONTHLY VOLUNTEER INFORMATIONAL Learn how you can help

young Latinas become media- and technology-savvy. *6pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 281/639-3327. [www.latinitasmagazine.org](#).*

MEXICAN BINGO NIGHT Play for ice cream sundaes, T-shirts, CDs, books, and other prizes. Or for fun. *Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. 25 cents per game. [www.ventanadelsoul.org](#).*

SIERRA CLUB MONTHLY MEETING: TEXAS PREDATORS PAST & PRESENT A special pre-sentation from Texas Memorial Museum's Dr. Pamela Owen on the history, morphology, and predatory styles of (big) cats, wolves, bears, and other Texas predators. Children are wel-come. *7pm. LCRA Hancock Building, 3700 Lake Austin Blvd. Free. [www.texas.sierraclub.org/austin](#).*

STONEWALL DEMOCRATS MONTHLY MEETING *7:30pm. Magnolia Cafe South, 1920 S. Congress, 383-1754. Free. [www.stonewallaustin.org](#).*

WANNA BE A FOSTER PARENT? Find out how at one of Texas MENTOR adoption agen-cy's monthly orientation meetings. (Please RSVP) *420-8811.*

THEATRE (See Arts Listings) **The Dionysium** Alamo Drafthouse South

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts) **First Unitarian Universalist Church**

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings) ***Ball of Fire*** @ Paramount, 9:05pm ***Favela Rising*** @ Alamo Downtown, 7pm ***His Girl Friday*** @ Paramount, 9:30pm

Wednesday 02

AIBA FIRST WEDNESDAY HAPPY HOUR The Austin Independent Business Alliance invites you to this monthly get-together to have fun and talk business at the same time. This month, you'll disuss the **South Lamar IBIZ District**. *5:30-7:30pm. Chango's South, 3005 S. Lamar. [www.ibuyaustin.com](#).*

Sports

BY MARK FAGAN

THE HOME TEAMS

ROUND ROCK EXPRESS There are definitely some familiar faces in Round Rock for Astros' fans with the recent demotions of Jason Lane, Wandy Rodriguez, and Mike Gallo. Don't expect these guys to stick around AAA for too long. Vs. Fresno: *Thu.-Fri., July 27-28, 7:05pm*. Vs. Sacramento: *Sat.-Tue., July 29-Aug. 1. 7:05pm. Dell Diamond, 3400 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock, 512/255-BALL. \$6-12. [www.rounderockexpress.com](#).*

RECREATION & FITNESS

BMX CHICS Meet at Whole Foods at Sixth & Lamar for some street, trail, and dirt freestyling. E-mail or call ahead to let them know you're coming. *Thu., July 27, 7pm. 916-0900. [macarenadog@yahoo.com](#).*

AUSTIN WRANGLERS YOUTH FOOTBALL CAMPS Lineman Camp is designed to introduce advanced techniques, as well as create head-to-head competition. *Sat.-Sun., July 29-30, 9am. Round Rock ISD Stadium on Parmer Lane. \$150. [www.austinwranglers.com](#).*

HILL COUNTRY OUTDOORS Learn more about Austin's most active outdoors and social club. More than 40 events featured each month, including hiking, camping, biking, kayaking, sports leagues, socials, and more. *RSVP online. Mon., July 31, 6:30-8pm. Opal Divine's, 3601 S. Congress Ste. K100, 707-0237. Free. [www.hillcountryoutdoors.com](#).*

THUNDER HILL RACEWAY There are races every Saturday night at this paved oval racetrack in South Austin. *Saturdays, 7pm. 24801 I-35, Kyle, 512/262-1352. [www.thuderhillraceway.com](#).*

AUSTIN FLOORBALL CLUB Floorball is a version of floor hockey, played indoors on foot using plastic sticks and a Wiffle ball. A basic stick is provided; just bring a pair of sneakers. *Tuesdays, 7pm. St. John Commu-nity Center, 7500 Blessing Dr. First time free. [www.austinfloorball.com](#).*

RUTA MAYA CAFE YOGA CLASSES All classes are free with a purchase at the cafe. Tai Chi Class with Guy Forsyth: *Tuesdays, 1pm*. Kids Yoga: *Saturdays, 10am*. Capoeira Angola Class: *Saturdays, 2pm*. All ages. *Ruta Maya, 3601-D S. Congress, 707-9637. [www.rutamaya.net](#).*

HILL COUNTRY OUTDOORS MONTHLY MEET & GREET Hang out with Austin's most active outdoor, sport, and social club. *Wed., Aug. 2, 6pm. Y Bar and Grill, 7720 Hwy. 71 W., 394-0220. Free. [www.hillcountryoutdoors.com](#).*

DHARMA YOGA Challenging Gravity Fun with balance poses and inver-sions with Keith Kachtick, director, and Seva Herold, senior instructor. *Sun., July 30, 2pm. 4101 Guadalupe, 420-0009. [www.dharma-yoga.net](#).*

TAI CHI/QIGONG Tai Chi is a choreographed set of martial art pos-tures designed to increase power and agility by using inner energy. Qigong combines physical and mental techniques to increase and cir-culate internal energy. *Thu., July 27, 7pm. The Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert Ave., 441-8988. \$36 for six weeks or \$8 per class (first class is free). [www.humanpotentialcenter.org](#).*

TEXAS STATE WIFFLEBALL TOURNAMENT It's not too late to sign up for the biggest Wiffle tourney of the year. Two divisions covering all lev-els of play. *Sat.-Sun., July 29-30. Milburn Park Wiffleball Complex, Cedar Park, 512/401-5506. \$50 per team. [www.taaf.com/gamesoftexas](#).*

GAMES OF TEXAS is an Olympic-style event featuring sports for athletes of all ages including: archery, badminton, baseball, bowling, boxing, disc golf, fencing, golf, gymnastics, lifeguard competition, rac-quetball, sand volleyball, softball, swimming, tennis, track and field, and now wiffleball. See [www.taaf.com/gamesoftexas](#) for details. *Through Sun., July 30. .*

AUSTIN ROCK GYM LADIES NIGHT Get free rock-climbing instruction and meet other ladies new to the sport at this weekly event. *Mondays, 7:30pm. Both locations. Free. [www.austinrockgym.com](#).*

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

AUSTIN CYCLING ASSOCIATION Check their Web site for fun biking adventures. *[www.austincycling.org/rides.html](#).*

AUSTIN CRITICAL MASS celebrates cycling by taking back the streets every last Friday of the month. It began in San Francisco in 1992 and quickly spread to cities all over the world, appearing in Austin in October 1993. *Fri., July 28, 5pm. UT West Mail, near 23rd & Guadalupe. [www.criticalmassrides.info/austin.html](#).*

SUNSTROKE SUMMER STAMPEDE RACE NO. 12 The last in a series of 12 chip-timed 5K races in the heat of the summer. Compete on two alternating courses (Brushy Creek and Town Lake Trail) each Wednesday night this summer. *Wed., Aug. 2, 7pm. Town Lake Trail (I-35/Riverside parking lot), 444-2800 x8900. [www.summerstampede.com](#).*

REI LECTURES & CLINICS Ride Like a Girl The Austin Ridge Riders and Race Like a Girl mountain bike team host a summer program of weekly women's mountain bike rides, plus weekend rides at local trails. Ride with other women, learn new trails and skills, build abilities, and more. *Mondays, 6pm. For info & directions, see [www.austinridgeriders.com](#).*

BAT RUN 5K Join the Austin bat community and running community for a jaunt through the streets and on the trail to benefit Bat Conservation International. *Fri., July 28, 7pm. Congress Avenue Bridge, 472-3254. [www.active.com/framed/event_detail.cfm?event_id=1335127](#).*

WILD BASIN WILDERNESS has a plethora of available walks, hikes, and more. *[www.wildbasin.org](#).*

Last week's column got lost in the e-mail ether; sorry. See “Soccer Watch Online” for more, but the newsy part was:

- **Bruce Arena's** out as U.S. national team coach, and
- The **Italian match-fixing** scandal verdict came in: four teams punished, three demoted to the second division.

Well, not so fast on that second item. In the wake of appeals filed Wednesday, heard Saturday, and decided this Tuesday, penalties against all four teams have been slashed. As it now stands, **Lazio** and **Fiorentina** are reinstated to Serie A, albeit with 11- and 19-point deductions in next season's standings. **AC Milan's** point deduction is cut from 15 to 8, and they're cleared to compete in this season's Champions League. Only **Juventus** would be demoted to Serie B, along with forfeiting the last two league titles; but their 30-point penalty is reduced to 17, giving them a shot at regaining Serie A after just one season down.

Of course, all four clubs immediately announced that they'll file further appeals. Juventus club president Giovanni Cobolli Gigli swore on the team Web site that “we will take our appeal to every possible court. I can assure you that we will not stop until justice has been done in the interests of our extraordinary fans, our shareholders, of the club, and of course of the championship.”

Justice all'Italiana – it's truly a thing of exquisite beauty: gloriously choreographed, with thundering operatic bluster and dramatic posturing, mixed with baroque gentility, and minutiae argued in such convolutions that no one really knows what's being contested any more. And in the end, they decide to let bygones be bygones, and everyone goes home happy. *Bellissima*. To me, one more appeal sounds about right: Water down the sentences about in half again, to where they're just barely meaningless; maybe Juve still has to go down to B for a year, but they'll get their champi-onships back (because, after all, the past matters far more than the future), and everything is *sistemato* – “systemized,” as they call it. *Campioni del Mondo!*

– Nick Barbaro

Soccer WATCH

Ongoing Events

THUNDERING PAWS ANIMAL SANCTUARY in Dripping Springs is in need of volunteers to care for cats, help with special events, and perform other tasks. volunteer@thunderingpaws.org.

TRAVIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE: VICTIM SERVICES UNIT needs volunteers to work alongside sheriff's deputies, providing support to victims at crime scenes. Training runs Aug. 28-Oct. 16, two nights a week, 6:30-8pm. 854-9709.

CAP METRO'S ADOPT-A-STOP This new program allows you or your organization to adopt one of the stops along Cap Metro's bus lines. In exchange for helping keep your stop tidy, Cap Metro will let you spruce it up (Keep Austin Beautiful will even provide landscaping tools) to reflect the personality of your neighborhood. 389-7434. lamont.ross@capmetro.org.

REGISTRATION FOR STUDENTS IN NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC SCHOOLS Hurricane evacuees planning to register children for the upcoming school year (which begins Thu., Sept. 7) in New Orleans' Recovery School District may do so online or by phone until all spaces are full; however, you must visit a New Orleans registration center in person by 5pm, Aug. 12, to provide signatures and required documentation. 877/453-2721. www.nolapublicschools.net.

'SPOTLIGHT ON AUSTIN' With rare photographs, biographies, artifacts, and video footage, this new history exhibit celebrates Austin's contributions to the legacy of **Tejano** music. Through Sept. 29. *Texas Music Museum*, 1009 E. 11th, 472-8891. Free.

WORK WITH INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE STUDENTS Academic Year in America needs volunteers to serve as coordinators for exchange students. LCs not only place students with host families, but they supervise the students throughout their stay in the U.S. and act as liaisons for AYA. In return, volunteers receive stipends and bonus points redeemable for international travel. See Web site for details and applications. kquigley@aifs.org. www.academicyear.org.

COMPUTER CLASSES FOR SENIORS Whether you've never touched a computer in your life or you're fine-tuning your digital photography skills, SeniorNet has a class for you. August's courses include Windows XP, Email & Internet, PC Intro, PC Basics, Organizing Your Computer, Digital Photography, Craigslist, Elements Photo Club, and "I Know Nothing" Photo Club. Call or visit the Web site for details. *AGE Building*, 3710 Cedar, 451-4611. www.seniornetaustin.org.

AMERICA'S GREATEST HOMETOWN HERO Do you know anyone making a big difference in Austin's safety, quality of life, or environment? If you do, you should let Volvo know, cuz they're giving out awards, like cars and charitable contribu-

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Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

Kate X Messer or Kate Getty (The Gay Place): gayplace@austinchronicle.com.

Mark Fagan (Sports): gameplans@austinchronicle.com.

Nora Ankrum (everything else): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor, 454-5766 or brenner@austinchronicle.com.

tions and such, to honor just such a person. See their Web site to nominate your favorite hometown hero. Through July 31. www.volvoforlifeawards.com.

AUSTIN AREA URBAN LEAGUE'S SERVICES FOR HURRICANE EVACUEES The AAUL offers the following: job placement (plus pre-employment preparation, skill-building, and job-search help), computer classes, transportation to and from interviews and business errands, quality-of-life meetings, child-care assistance, help obtaining personal documents, and medical referrals. 478-7176 x225.

GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE OF CENTRAL TEXAS needs volunteers to help feed and care for the animals, assist with coordinating special events, and other duties. *Dripping Springs*, 512/264-2478. www.gsdrescuectx.com.

'STATE FAIR' showcases photographer Arthur Graces' exploration of state fairs throughout the Midwest. Through Aug. 31. *University of Texas Center for American History, Sid Richardson Hall Rm. 2.101*, 495-4518. www.cah.utexas.edu/news/gracex.html.

ELDERHAVEN ADULT DAY CARE has openings for new clients. This licensed program offers a safe, therapeutic daytime environment for the elderly and adults with disabilities, and has funding to help participants who can't afford to pay. *AGE Building*, 3710 Cedar, 458-6305. www.ageofaustin.org.

AUSTIN CARSHARE Become part of the solution to our carbon-choked air and our traffic-clogged streets: Pre-enroll in Austin CarShare, the first car-sharing program in Texas. 448-4477. www.austincarshare.org.

Our Faith is 2,000 Years Old.
Our Thinking is Not.

The Congregational Church of
Austin, United Church of Christ
Open and Affirming
Join us for **Sunday Worship, 11am**



23rd & San Antonio
472-2370

<http://congregational.faithweb.com>



upcoming events:

- july 21 inks lake campout
- 22 raft the quad
- 29 tubing trip
- 30 party barge

"Best outdoor events."
—The Austin Chronicle Readers Poll



www.hillcountryoutdoors.com

AUSTIN NORML MEETING 9pm. *Opal Divine's Freehouse*, 700 W. Sixth, 477-3308.

info@austinnorml.com, www.austinnorml.com.

★ **CHAUTAUQUA RIVER SCHOOL** has a new name (Texas River School) and a new location (Texas Rowing Center) but still does the same work, providing on-water educational opportunities for at-risk kids. So show 'em your support at this benefit featuring auctions, door prizes, and **Dale Watson**. 6pm-12mid. *The Broken Spoke*, 3201 S. Lamar, 442-6189. \$20 (free, kids under 12). www.texasrowingcenter.com.

DEMOCRACY FOR TEXAS MEETUP 7pm. *Mother Egan's Irish Pub*, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747. Free.

FREE GUIDED MEDITATION/INTRO TO ANCIENT BREATHING 6:30pm. *Howson Library*, 2500 Exposition, 680-6140. www.artoflivingaustin.org.

GATEWAY TO RECOVERY: ADDICTION AND THE FAMILY This two-part series repeats monthly. Tonight's session addresses the question **What Is Addiction?** Next Wed., Aug. 9, is **Part II: How Is the Family Affected?** 7-9pm. *Austin Recovery*, 8402 Cross Park, 697-8517. Free. mrobinson@austinrecovery.org.

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD HAPPY HOUR 5:30-7pm. *Casino el Camino*, 517 E. Sixth, 469-9330. www.iww.org.

INTUITIVE CIRCLE This weekly class helps you hone your intuition and use it to help others. 7:30-9:30pm. *Private residence*, 560-5193. www.intuitivestudiesaustin.com.

LINKING LANGUAGES SPANISH CLUB Open to everyone. 7pm. *Ventana del Soul*, 1834 E. Oltorf, 263-1465. Free.

METROPOLITAN BREAKFAST CLUB: WHEN DID 'MAINSTREAM' BECOME A DIRTY WORD 7-8:30am. *UT Club, Darrell Royal Memorial Stadium*, sixth floor, 2108 E. Robert Dedman. \$15, members/first-time guests. www.mbc-austin.org.

NOKIDDING! GAMES NIGHT For happily child-free adults. 7-9pm. *Central Market Cafe*, 4001 N. Lamar, 206-1000; 899-4300, 922-0866. Free. www.austinnokidding.com.

COMEDY (See Arts Listings)

Queertown *Esther's Pool*, 9:05pm

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)

Ball of Fire @ Paramount, 7pm

Favela Rising @ Alamo Downtown, 7pm

His Girl Friday @ Paramount, 9:15pm

Thursday 03

ART FIX: FENG SHUI The Blanton's Art Fix series adds short programs on art, music, literature, life-style, and more to your museum experience. Learn the principles of feng shui this week, and find out how they apply to the Blanton. 6-7pm. *Blanton Museum of Art, MLK Boulevard & Congress Avenue*, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.

★ **BLANKS ON A BLANK DEADLINE** Inspired by the eagerly anticipated Samuel L. Jackson blockbuster ***Snakes on a Plane***, this Alamo Drafthouse contest challenges you to **make your own short film** based on other things that might be found on a thing. If your depiction of things on a thing is better than everybody else's, you'll get \$500 and a flight to the world premiere of the movie in L.A. Deadline: Today! (At 12mid.) www.blanksonablank.com.

FIRST THURSDAY Music, food, and shopping. From the river, south on South Congress. Free.

INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT VOLUNTEER NIGHT IBP sends books to Texas prisoners, and they can always use a hand with sorting mail, processing requests, shelving/sending books, etc. Thu., 6-10pm; Sun., 7pm-12mid. *Rhizome Collective*, 300 Allen, 385-3695. www.insidebooksproject.com.

★ **INVESTING IN YOU: REAL STEPS TO REAL ESTATE** is a free workshop series from **Neighborhood Housing Services of Austin**, a local organization working to provide housing opportunities to low- and moderate-income families or individuals, as well as to people with disabilities. Tonight's class (taught in Spanish and English) will help you get started if you're just beginning to consider home ownership. Child care available with preregistration. 5:30-8:30pm. *St. John's Recreation Center*, 7500 Blessing Ave, 374-1300. www.nhsaustin.org.

THEATRE (See Arts Listings)
Red Cans *The Off Center*

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts)
Mexic-Arte Museum

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
A Scanner Darkly Extravaganza @ Alamo South, 7:15, 10:30pm
Favela Rising @ Alamo Downtown, 7pm
One, Two, Three @ Paramount, 7pm
The Apartment @ Paramount, 9:15pm

PUT DOWN THE PAPER AND TURN ON TO EASY STREET ▼

KINKY IS AS KINKY DOES

If you're looking for a relationship that's a bit ... unconventional, you need to turn on to Easy Street. 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, you can meet real people from right here in Austin who share your interests and lifestyle. Browse ads, looks at pictures, read profiles – all absolutely free.

Place a profile with a photo on Easy Street by August 4, and you'll be entered to win a Forbidden Fruit prize package worth \$150!

FORBIDDEN FRUIT

austinchronicle.com/easystreet

Petra's Cuento

Dougherty Arts Center, through July 30

Running Time: 1hr, 40 min

Cuento is Spanish for story, those individual webs of words we all enjoy so much. It's an appropriate title for a play that was, at least for me, so much about language.

That I feel compelled to say about a third of the play is in Spanish should indicate my assumption that I'm writing for a primarily English-speaking audience, and that's a cultural assumption. It could be read as a warning that, unless you speak Spanish, you may not understand this latest Teatro Vivo production and thus, not be able to enjoy it, but that's certainly not the case. You may not understand every word being said, but you'll understand everything that's happening. Rupert Reyes, the writer, co-director, and one of the actors in the show, understands how to write comedy. More importantly, he understands how to present it.

The first image of the play is of grandmother Petra examining her breasts for lumps. It appears that she has cancer and may be dying. Of course, life goes on, and soon after she's in bed with her husband Rafael. It's their anniversary, and it's pretty clear what they've been planning, which includes references to Rafael's "little buddy." But all Petra wants to do is call her daughter Carmen and see her grandchildren. Eventually, she manages to manipulate a visit to care for the children while

Carmen and her husband Michael go on a trip, but the children are spoiled and bratty, with little love for the Spanish language, which isn't spoken in their house, or especially for Mexican food. Unbeknownst to all, the spiteful, evil Red plans on kidnapping the children to try to force Michael, who works for the district attorney, to release his brother from jail.

It's comic melodrama in the tradition of Neil Simon. Funny scene piles on top of funny scene, and the actors often deliver the material in exactly the way a pair of comedians would, standing on the stage presentationally, their bodies facing the audience while they speak to one another. One-liners drop like candy from a piñata, many of them from Reyes as Rafael, but constantly from Beatrice Fuentes and JoJanie Segura, who simply and joyously play two of Petra's friends. And while the kidnapping part of the story could easily fall flat, J. Jimenez-Smith and especially Rudy Sandoval, as the kidnappers, are the same kind of righteous, bumbling idiots you find in films like *Home Alone*, and just as entertaining.

Embedded in this cultural comedy is a message about choice. We make time for things that are important to us. We can't depend on others to teach us on their own; we need to want to learn. I enjoyed the production tremendously, but there were moments when I found myself thinking that I wished I spoke Spanish because I wanted to enjoy it even more. While some of the more dramatic moments don't quite come off, enough do, and the comedy always works to perfection. These are not professional actors, but as a group they have a great sense of self and an accomplished sense of comic tempo. Whatever language they're speaking, it's a language I understand.

— Barry Pineo



Theatre

OPENING

★ **AMERICAN FIESTA** Steve Tomlinson, Austin's best monologist, and that's such the Understatement of the Decade, returns to the stage with his acclaimed show that links Depression-era Fiestaware, eBay, national political divisions, and, ultimately, the human heart in conflict with itself. We can't recommend this show highly enough: Tomlinson is local, but the man's a world treasure. *July 27-Aug. 13. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. UT's McCullough Theatre, 510 E. 23rd. 866-4-GETTIX. \$12-30. www.austintheatre.org.*

AUSTIN CABARET THEATRE: EARTHA KITT Yes, the legendary Eartha Kitt, recently profiled in these pages, comes to Austin to delight and charm all those in attendance at one of the city's swankiest venues. In fact, she's the featured performer for this annual fundraising gala (complete with cocktails and dinner among the silken threads) for the ACT. *Fri., July 28, 6pm. The Mansion at Judge's Hill, 1900 Rio Grande. 453-ACTS. \$175. www.austincabaret.org.*

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Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy.
brenner@austinchronicle.com.

Robi Polgar, performance art, dance, classical.
dance-classical@austinchronicle.com.

Ric Williams, litera. litera@austinchronicle.com.

Benné Rockett, visual arts. art@austinchronicle.com.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor.
brenner@austinchronicle.com.

SNEAKYPETE'S DEVIOUS DEALINGS is an old-timey, popcorn-throwing melodrama by Billy St. John, presented by the Way Off Broadway Community Players out in Leander for your cheering and hissing pleasure. Directed by Cassie Trujillo. *July 28-Aug. 19. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Crystal Falls Playhouse, 10960 E. Crystal Falls Pkwy., Leander. 512/336-8966. \$10-12. www.wobcp.org.*

GRRL ACTION is the live, first-time-onstage show that results from a three-week workshop on autobiographical writing and performance for teenage girls led by Rude Mechanicals: funny and poignant reflections on family, self, sexuality, and more. *Sat.-Sun., July 29-30, 2pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. Free. www.rudemechs.com.*

★ **THE DIONYSIUM** returns (with an earlier start time, please note) to give you *corpus callosum* a fine and entertaining workout, with a debate on the new bike helmet law and ... ah, details are still nebulous at press time, but we reckon they'll coalesce, soon enough, into a syzygy of stars to brighten Austin's intellectual firmament. And all of this awash with alcohol, riddled with the wit and wisdom of L.B. Deyo and Buzz Moran, and propelled by the musical stylings of Graham Reynolds on the Hammond organ. Recommended. *Tue., Aug. 1, 7pm. Alamo Drafthouse, 409-B Colorado, 476-1320; 13729 Research, 219-8135; 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320. \$5. www.dionysium.com.*

★ **RED CANS** is hawked as "a new species of performance," and we wouldn't begin to doubt that. Recent birthday-suited *Chronicle* cover subjects Josh Meyer and Matt Hислоpe (aka Rubber Repertory) have teamed up with the Rude Mechs to present this spectacle of incarnadine kinetics and sculptural weirdness. What are the red cans? What does their choreographed, sometimes violent interaction mean? How the hell do people squeeze into and perform inside such spatial restraints? Are the Rubber Reppers so enamored with Wallace Shawn because much of what they purvey is, until they've thought of it, *inconceivable*? We'll be front and center, waiting to find out; you should be, too. *Aug. 3-19. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. \$10-25 (pay what you can, Thursdays). www.rubberrep.org.*

CAMPCAMP is Austin's monthly queer performance night and something of an open mic, although this edition will showcase a new musical created, built, and rehearsed in one locked room in 60 hours. *Thu., Aug. 3, 8pm. Kai Excess Backyard, 2823 Manor Rd. Free (bring some food and drinks for the pot luck).*

THE GOOD DOCTOR Neil Simon conjures an affectionate skewering of Anton Chekhov's works in this multipartite comedy, as presented in that grand venue just to the north of town. *Aug. 3-13. Thu.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Palace Theatre, 810 S. Austin Rd., Georgetown, 512/869-7469. \$14 (\$12, seniors; \$7, students).*

CLOSING

PETRA'S CUENTO is a bilingual family-friendly comedy written and directed by Austin's *jefe grande* of bilingual family-friendly comedies, Rupert Reyes. *Through July 30. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468. \$15 (\$12, students, seniors, ACoT); pay what you wish, Thursday. www.teatrovivo.org.*

SHIRLEY VALENTINE Willy Russell's honest and thoroughly entertaining look at a woman rebelling against the middle-aged doldrums is directed by Michael Stuart for the Onstage Theatre Company. And, perhaps best of all, it stars Bernadette Nason. *Through July 30. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$20 (\$10, students, seniors, ACoT, AP subscribers). www.onstagetheatreco.org.*

★ **IN ON IT** We saw the playwright Daniel MacIvor and his partner debut this two-man show, equally charming and unsettling, at Fresh Terrain a few years ago. This new version, about the vicissitudes of love and life and car keys and the thematic influence of Leslie Gore, stars Scotty Roberts and the *Chronicle*'s own Robert Faires, as directed by Lowell Bartholomee for the dirigo group. *Through July 29. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 371-0554. \$17 (\$12, seniors, ACoT, ASW; \$10, students); pay what you can, Thursdays. www.rudemechs.com.*

★ **AN ARABIAN MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM** Tongue and Groove Theatre inaugurates the new outdoor theatre space at Ararat with an hour-long version of Shakespeare's fine fantasy done up all Middle eastern style and featuring an enormous cast of dancers and actors. Directed by the nonpareil David Yeakle, of course. *Through July 29. Fri.-Sun., 9pm. Extra show (pay what you will): Thu., July 27, 9pm. Ararat, 111 E. North Loop, 419-1692. \$20 (\$15, students, seniors, ACoT, kids younger than 12); two-for-one with dinner. www.araratrestaurant.net.*

THE VISIT The Vortex's Summer Youth Theatre project takes on Friedrich Durrenmatt's classic about the dire consequences that occur when a town sells its soul for a fortune. Directed by Le

Easter, and featuring Content Love Knowles among the ambitious teens. *Through July 29. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$15 (\$10, students, children). www.vortexrep.org.*

BAREFOOT IN THE PARK Neil Simon's comedy classic gets a staging out in Georgetown. *Through July 30. Thu.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Palace Theatre, 810 S. Austin Rd., Georgetown, 512/869-7469. \$14 (\$12, seniors; \$7, students). www.thegeorgetownpalace.org.*

ONGOING

SHAKESPEARE AT WINEDALE The legendary Winedale/UT program offers a trio of the Bard's works in repertory out there in the Hill Country of Round Top. **As You like It:** *Fri., July 28, 7:30pm; Sun., July 30, 2pm (signed for the deaf); Sat., Aug. 5, 2pm; Sun., Aug. 6, 7:30pm; Thu., Aug. 10, 7:30pm; Sat., Aug. 12, 7:30pm. **Two Gentlemen of Verona:** *Thu., July 27, 7:30pm; Sat., July 29, 7:30pm; Fri., Aug. 4, 7:30pm; Sun., Aug. 6, 2pm; Sat., Aug. 12, 2pm; Sun., Aug. 13, 7:30pm. **King Lear:** *Sat., July 29, 2pm; Sun., July 30, 7:30pm; Thu., Aug. 3, 7:30pm; Sat., Aug. 5, 7:30pm; Fri., Aug. 11, 7:30pm; Sun., Aug. 13, 2pm. Winedale Historical Center, Round Top, 512/471-4726. www.shakespeare-winedale.org.***

★ **RADIO: 30** is playwright Chris Earle's pitch-perfect version of what happens when a radio voice talent loses it big time, as they say, during the attempted recording(s) of a commercial. Sixty minutes of funny tension and uneasy schadenfreude, expertly rendered by solo actor Mical Trejo under the direction of HPT's Ken Webster. *Through Aug. 5. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY. \$13-15. www.hydeparktheatre.com.*

SUMMERSTOCK 2006 features students from local high schools and colleges as performers in a trio of theatrical treats: Bernstein's *West Side Story*, the latest show from Neil Simon, and *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fair(y) Stupid Tales*. Thespian fun for the whole family, we reckon. *Through Aug. 6. Mary Moody Northern Theatre at St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 448-8484. \$6-12.*

THE PLAY ABOUT THE BABY It's Edward Albee's classic of parental fears absurdified, in which one couple may or may not have stolen another couple's precious kinder (which may or may not actually exist), is directed by Kate Meehan for Coda Theatre Project. *Through Aug. 5. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. play! Theatre, 1204 Cedar, 468-5546. \$10*

(\$8, students, seniors); pay by the dice, Thursdays. www.codatheater.org.

I AM MY OWN WIFE In a reunited Berlin, Charlotte – a survivor of Nazism and Communist dictatorship, a soft-spoken but tenaciously gender-bending male – runs a museum of memorabilia and portrays more than 40 characters in the performance of a lifetime. Written by Doug Wright, directed by Dave Steakley, starring Glenn Peters. *Through Aug. 27. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$28-37. www.zachscott.com.*

ZILKER PARK OUTDOOR SUMMER MUSICAL: SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS Yeehaw, we imagine, as this rootin', tootin', rip-snotin' spectacle of love and the lengths some folks will go for it are presented as the 48th annual Z.P.O.S.M. for your evening-picnic-on-the-grass pleasure. Directed by Ginger Morris and Robin Lewis. *Through Aug. 5. Thu.-Sun., 8:30pm. Zilker Park Hillside Theater, 2206 William Barton Dr., 479-9491. Free (donations accepted). www.zilker.org.*

AUDITIONS

PARAMOUNT PICTURES CASTING AUSTIN EXTRAS Third Coast Extras will hold an open casting call for a feature-length film directed by Kimberly Peirce and starring Ryan Phillippe. They need males (ages 18-25) with a military (specifically Army) background and look. Bring a nonreturnable photograph. *Sat., July 29, 10am-6pm. Austin Film Society, 1901 E. 51st. 472-5385 x1. info@bethsepkocasting.com.*

BARS, BEDROOMS, BUKOWSKI The new troupe called Performance Venue will stage this show to “bring Charles Bukowski’s writings to life.” Male and female actors are needed; alcoholism, we assume, is optional. *Sun.-Tue., Aug. 6-8, 7pm. 211 E. Alpine #300 (across from Ruta Maya). 805/451-0482. performancevenue@gmail.com.*

Comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research Blvd. #100, 467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com.

Open Mic Comedy Sit back and relax with a cold one while you watch seasoned pros and up-and-comers knocking themselves out humorously for your benefit (and to benefit the Austin Children’s Shelter). *Sundays, 8pm. \$2 (free, college students).*

John Evans comes to Austin all the way from Minneapolis, which, if you think about it after three lengthy bong hits of DuPont’s new mint-flavored SuperJay Kind Bud, is pretty funny in itself. And opening for this laughmeister is a fellow yclept **W. Kamau Bell**. *July 25-29. Tue.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

ESTHER’S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. www.esthersfolies.com.

Esther’s Follies wreaks some hilarious havoc with its usual fast-paced brilliance, featuring a preview of the upcoming governor’s race, the South Austin Chamber of Commerce, Shannon Sedwick channelling Patsy Cline, an almost X-rated Dr. Seuss, and so funnily on, with much comedy-riddled song and dance and that spectacular magician Ray Anderson. *Reservations highly recommended. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military). Additional \$5 for special reserved seats.*

Queertown This talented troupe, direct from Dallas, blends original social/political satire and sketch with music and improvisation to create a unique perspective of gay life in the good ol’ USA. “See what cops really do when they’re alone in their patrol cars. Witness the more flamboyant side of ‘Gaybraham’ Lincoln.” Much homolarity ensues. Recommended. *Wed., Aug. 2, 9pm. \$15.*

THE HIDEOUT THEATER 617 Congress, 443-3688. www.heroescomedy.com.

AUSTIN IMPROV: EVERYTHING FROM NOTHING The Hideout’s the epicenter of all the best improv in Austin, and it’s shifting into overdrive for 2006, presenting more shows, more styles, more wicked tasty off-the-cuff japey than you can find anywhere in Texas (or, for that matter, the Greater Southwest and Southeast Regions). Keep your eyes peeled to this section of the listings for what’s, as they say, happening at Improv HQ. For instance:

SATURDAY: WHIRLED NEWS TONIGHT Because the Hideout doesn’t rest on its laurels, no matter how comfortable those laurels may be, here’s a new form of political and social satire, ripped (as they say) from the day’s headlines and presented by the finest improv comedians in Austin. *Saturdays, 10:30pm. 461-5897. \$12 (\$10, seniors, students).*

THURSDAY: ColdTowne’s Chris Trew and **Dave Buckman of The Frank Mills** host an Ed Sullivan-style show of stand-up, improv, and sketch comedy. *8pm. \$5.*

FRIDAY: Improv Threefer features **Girls! Girls! Me, Myself, and Mike**, and **You, Me, and Greg**. *8pm. \$7-10. The Double Barrel* features **Get Up and The Knuckleball Now**. *10pm. \$7-10.* And late night’s **Cage Match** troupes continue to battle for the final and highly coveted Out Of Bounds Festival slot! *Single elimination!* And, OMG, it’s **Polite Society Residue** vs. **The Leading Brands!** *11:30pm. \$7-10.*

SATURDAY: Law and Order About which we’ve yet to be informed; perhaps because it’s extreme improvisation and even they don’t know yet? *8pm. \$7-10. Maestro* is the most audience-participatory show in the improv lineup. Performers play games and scenes scored by the audience, periodically eliminating low-scoring players until one performer emerges victorious

and is crowned the Maestro. *10pm. \$7-10. The Blank Show* features **Gorilla Theatre** with Andy Crouch and his award-winning little beard. *11:30pm. \$7-10.*

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116. www.thevelveetaroom.com.

Matt Bearden is headlining, all these years after he appeared in *Austin Stories*, and he’s got **Tony B** on emcee duties and has corralled a passel of comedy pallies to help bring the funny. On Friday, **Mario Digiorio**, **Brendon Walsh**, and **Matt Sadler**; on Saturday, **Lucas Molandes**, **Doug Mellard**, and **John Rabon**. This is voted Most Likely to Be One Fucking Funny Weekend. *Fri.-Sat., July 28-29, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.*

Spite Club returns! Who’s the snarkiest of them all? You’re gonna find out tonight, when stand-up reaches the, um, *biling* point as John Rabon and Matt Bearden host three rounds of comedian-vs.-comedian battle: trivia, insults, and freestyle. This week it’s **Michael Navarette** against **Dan Hedges**. *Thu., July 27, 9pm. \$5.*

Open Mic Night, God Help Us All Think you have what it takes to knock ‘em dead, comedy-wise, in three minutes? Some of your fellow citizens think so, and they (and you?) will be up there on the Cheese Palace boards, giving it their best shot. This week’s host: **Art Mack**. *Thursdays, 10pm. \$5.*

BUT WAIT – THERE’S MORE!

AZZEROTH THE JOVIAL A live comedy set from this Black Metal comedian, verily the spawn of Satan and Phyllis Diller, will enliven the Austin screening of *Metal Storm: The Scandinavian Black Metal Wars*, the latest Music Monday offering from your hardworking team at the Alamo Drafthouse. *Mon., July 31, 9:45pm. Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 409-B Colorado, 476-1320. \$2. www.drafthouse.com.*

KAZILLIONAIRE Jeremy Lamb and Madeline Malka, veterans of Second City and Improv Olympic, have joined forces under this moniker to provide you with a new show. (See our review, p.35.) *Through July 29. Thu.-Sat., 8:30pm. The Hideout Theater, 617 Congress, 443-3688. \$10 (\$8, students). www.kazillionaire.org.*

LATINO COMEDY PROJECT Right, we’ve already seen what these guys can do, we don’t have to hawk them blindly. This troupe, led by jefe grande Adrian Villegas, is the surest bet for a night full of actually funny and sometimes damned insightful comedy, whether you’re straight from el barrio or you’re a near-clueless gringo or (especially) if you’re a little bit of both. No joke: See them here (taking over the Pool while the regular Esther’s gang goes on vacation) before HBO snaps their talented asses up and they start charging the big bucks, ese. *Aug. 3-5. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. Esther’s Pool, 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. www.esthersfolies.com*



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An Arabian Midsummer Night's Dream

Theatarat @ Ararat Restaurant, through July 29

Running Time: 1 hr, 15 min

While the Swan of Avon was known to crib plots and characters from the writings of others, you can safely bet that it wasn't Scheherazade Shakespeare was channeling when he penned *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Theseus and Hippolyta, the dense, fairy-infested forest, and those rough-edged craftsmen seem rather far removed from the

sultans and sand dunes of *The Book of One Thousand and One Nights*. And yet, when transported to Arabia, the duke of Athens and his Amazon bride fit quite cozily in a caliph's palace, the rude mechanicals look right at home in the bazaar, and those enchantments of the fairy world translate handily to the land of djinnis and magic lamps. All of which is to say that if you're christening a new outdoor performance space behind a Middle Eastern eatery, as Tongue and Groove Theatre is in back of Ararat, *An Arabian Midsummer Night's Dream* is actually an ingenious and fitting way to go.

Tongue and Groove artistic director David Yeakle and his sizable company work overtime at seasoning their transplanted Shakespeare with Middle Eastern spice. The sprawling playing space – five distinct areas spread over a full 180-degree arc – offers onion-domed turrets, faux palm trees, swaths of white sand, and, painted on a tiny house left of the main stage, a mural of the desert under a starry night sky. Laura Cannon outfits the cast in earth-toned cotton tunics, trousers, and robes set off by brilliantly hued sashes, sheaths, and fezzes of the lushest fabrics, many of them luxuriantly patterned. Titania and her fairy train – transformed as if by magic into a harem of midriff-baring bellydancers adorned in all manner of sparkly, jangly baubles, bangles, and beads – enhance their supernatural allure with the spellbinding charm of that ancient art form (especially as embodied in the sinuous, sensuous shimmying of choreographer Mimi Kayl-Vaughan). Puck's speedy circumnavigation of the globe is made on a flying carpet (enchantingly depicted via shadow puppetry and a fully fleshed airborne puppet created by Conor Hopkins). By and large,



these elements, offered under a darkening summer sky, succeed in transporting us viewers at least halfway 'round the world to a place of somewhat exotic delights.

Alas, the play itself isn't always fully present once we arrive. Yeakle has edited away a good half of the script, compressing the characters more into types, which actually serves to play up the *Dream*'s fairy-tale feel and give him room to play the comedy as commedia – one of Yeakle's specialties – as well as keep the story moving briskly along. Unfortunately, the levels of experience among the 19 performers are so varied that the production overall has difficulty realizing the director's vision, much less breathing life into Shakespeare's text. For every full-bodied performance such as Felizdia McDonald's sensual, beguiling turn as fairy queen Titania, there's one that strains against the text or ends up creating an inadvertently abrasive character. Veterans such as Mark Stewart and Elizabeth Doss, skilled at playing classical verse *and* comedy, are given relatively little to do, which puts more of a burden on the less proficient performers, some of whom force the comedy, causing it to go flat, and some of whom simply can't be heard (although a rather loud kitchen fan that runs throughout the show contributes substantially to this problem).

This may not be the place, then, to go for savoring this oft-told tale as Will set it down in Elizabethan England. But there's enough goodwill and visual splendor here – not to mention flashes of genuine grin-inducing magic – to make you feel that you've whiled away the 1,002nd night with Scheherazade.

– Robert Faires

Dance

GETALONG GANG PERFORMANCE GROUP: CALL FOR DANCERS GGPG seeks “solid” modern dancers for its upcoming dance/theatre extravaganza, “Dolly Would,” a new work, opening in November, that features crazy antics, trashy make-up, and the music of Dolly Parton. Call for details. *Sat., July 29, 2pm.* 626-0205.

RUDRAKSHA ACADEMY The Oriya community of Austin and the Orissa Society of America brings this “experience in elegance” to town, featuring the 16-member dance ensemble and orchestra all the way from Orissa, India. *Fri., July 28, 7:30pm. King Seabrook Chapel, Huston-Tillotson College, 900 Chicon, 826-7309, 917-4715, 248-8970. \$15-25 (\$5, seated child; \$10, students).* www.sulekha.com/Austin.

IMPROVISATIONAL MOVEMENT PROJECT IMP is dedicated to researching and presenting “composition in the moment.” This collaboration brings together contemporary dance performers and local musicians to create unique events that are raw, theatrical, and engaging. And each night is different! *Through July 29. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. The Blue Theater, 916 Springdale, 927-1118. \$8-20.* www.refractionarts.org.

AZTLAN DANCE: CUENTOS: AZTLAN SHORT STORIES Short narrative dance works reinforce and recast stories of life and love in the barrio and the dynamic heritage within, told through thought-provoking, vibrant, and colorful Latino cultural imagery. *July 28-Aug. 6. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Santa Cruz Center for Culture, 1805 E. Seventh, 460-9256. \$13 (\$10, seniors, students, children).* www.aztlandance.com.

1,001 NIGHTS

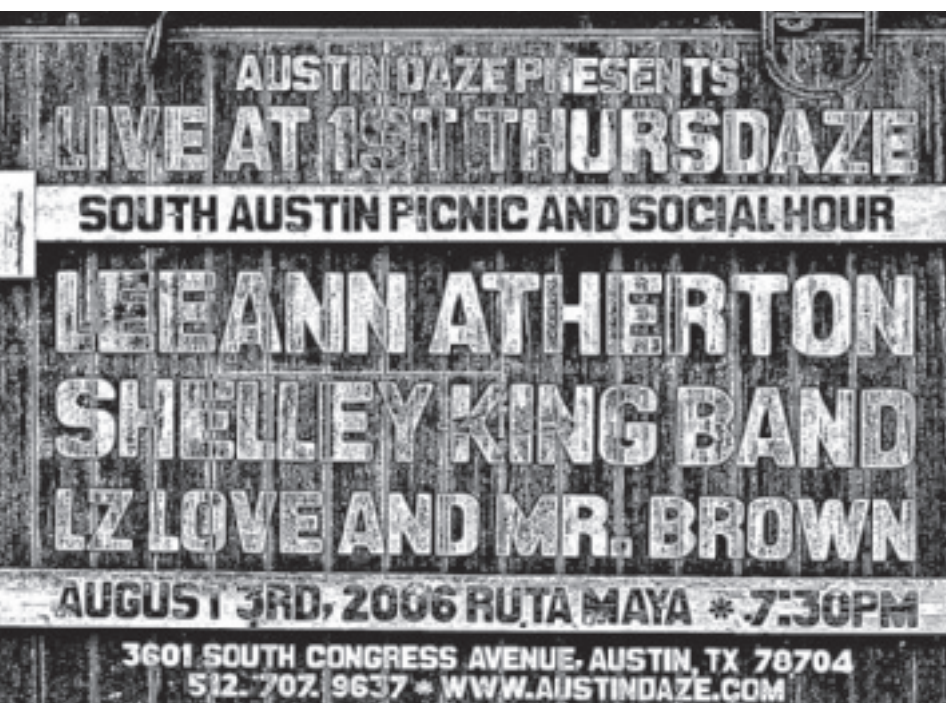
ARARAT Almost every night of the week, beautiful belly dancing accompanies your Mideast feast. Reservations encouraged. *Nightly, times vary. Ararat, 111 E. North Loop. 419-1692.*

CLEOPATRA Belly dancing with true Egyptian flavor. *Fri.-Sat., 8pm-2am. Cleopatra, 2620 S. I-35. 947-9462.*

TWO LEFT FEET

ESTUDIO FLAMENCO Get fired up with flamenco dance classes for beginners and intermediates. Handy central location to boot. *Days/times vary. 2801 W. 45th. 453-0190. \$10 per class (private lessons available).* www.estudioflamenco.com.

DANCE INTERNATIONAL Open to all, these ballroom and Latin sessions are a great way to practice or learn new steps. Each night features a variety of dances; each month sees the start of a new, progressive course. No partner necessary. *Sundays, 6-8pm. Dancers Workshop, 183 & Balcones Woods. Weeknights, times vary. Hills Fitness Center, 4615 Bee Caves Rd. 32-DANCE. Fees vary.* www.dancein.org.



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AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS Latin, swing, and other dance music in a nonsmoking, alcohol-free venue. No partner required, all ages welcome. *Saturdays, 8pm. Austin Recreation Center, 1301 Shoal Creek. \$6 (\$4, members, students).* **ABD classes** Five-week sessions, beginners to advanced dancers. *Tuesday & Thursday nights. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st. Prices vary.* www.austinballroomdancers.org.

LUCILA DANCE PRODUCTIONS: CLASSES FORMING Classes are forming now in Bellydancing (all levels), Flamenco, Salsa/Merengue, Creative Movement for kids 5 to 10 years old, and T'ai-Chi. *Lucila Dance Studio, 1700 S. Lamar. 416-8800. www.luciladance.com.*

CONTACT IMPROVISATION DANCE JAMS Participants move in and out of contact with one or more people through a common center of gravity. All are welcome. *Tuesdays, 8-10pm; Sundays, 4:30-6pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar. \$5.*

AUSTIN SCANDINAVIAN DANCING Traditional Swedish and Norwegian dances. Beginners welcome, no partners needed. New classes start every month. *Thursdays, 7:30-9:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 454-0598 or 453-9633. \$3.*

AUSTIN BARN DANCERS: CONTRA DANCE You don't need a partner, and every dance will be taught before you stride out on your own. With live music. *Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 453-4225. \$3. www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/hancock.htm.*

AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS Start out a fun evening learning a variety of couples and line dances from around the world before giving it a whirl during the open dance session. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome. No partner required. *Saturdays. Lessons: 7:30pm. Dance: 8:15-11pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 481-9362. \$5. www.yastreb.com/tifd/aifd.html.*

AUSTIN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS Come alone or with a partner; beginners always welcome (kilts optional). *Thursdays, 7-9pm. Quicksilver Dance Studio, 8711 Burnet. First session free. www.austinscd.org.*

AUSTIN SWING SYNDICATE A couple hundred swingers hit the dance floor once a week for DJ-spun sounds of past blasts. A beginners lesson starts the evening. *Thursdays, 8pm-12mid. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 476-5845. \$4 (\$2, members). www.austinswingssyndicate.org.*

DANCE INTERNATIONAL: YOUTH DANCE CAMP Middle and high school students are invited to this weeklong session, where they'll receive focused training on basic ballroom and Latin styles, including morning warm-ups and a choreographed routine to be performed at the summer showcase on Aug. 13. See their Web site for registration details. *Aug. 7-11, 9am-3pm. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 32-DANCE. www.dancein.org.*

Classical Music

OPENING

LA FOLLIA AUSTIN BAROQUE: SNEAK PREVIEW CONCERT Get a sneak, uh, listen to Austin's pre-eminent Baroque chamber music ensemble's upcoming season, which encompasses the music of Bach, Telemann, Erlebach, Reusner, Marais, Montclair, C.P.E. Bach, and even King Frederik the Great. Fun mixes with scholarship as the performers let you in on the history of their chosen works and composers. Season tickets will be on sale: Get 'em while they're hot! *Fri., July 28, 8pm. First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa, 879-1993. \$12 (\$8, seniors, students). www.lafollia.org.*

ONGOING

AUSTIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: CONCERTS IN THE PARK SUMMER SERIES Kids frolic, couples lounge on blankets, old friends semicircle their folding chairs, passersby stop and listen. So it is with the fourth summer season of ensemble performances by members of the symphony. This week's featured ensemble: **Big Band.** *Through Aug. 20. Sundays, 7:30pm. Woolldridge Square Park, Guadalupe between Ninth & 10th, 476-6064. Free. www.austinsymphony.org.*

“Active Disappearance”

Okay Mountain, through July 29

Four large photographs by Adam Schreiber hang on one wall. The first looks like splatters of a milky substance on a glass surface with a dark background. The next features a cream-colored control panel sitting on a similarly hued surface. The third image echoes the first: A pair of shoes seems to float above black flooring with blips of white receding in an even pattern.

The final image consists of a group of silicon wafers lying at the end of a machine that can be confused with a metal detector.

The back wall features six photos from Anna Krachey. Three focus on landscape in which the real estate either is developing or has been abandoned mid-construction. The other three suggest some unknown narrative as they include female figures in snippets of differing scenarios. Andy Mattern has four large photos, each one capturing a nighttime portrait of a lonely building. The lights are central and suggest an interior glow. In a niche created by the movable wall hang the works of Bryan De La Garza. Numerous Polaroid photos flank the projection of a video. Both mediums have a similar appearance. They are gritty and colorless like documentaries. They have immediacy to their image but also capture a moment in a reminiscent gaze.

The agenda is quiet in this summer group show. The portraiture and the landscape are easily recognizable, but just beneath the surface lies the title of the exhibition, “Active Disappearance.” In Schreiber's work, the focus of the camera pops from the picture plane in a 3-D optical trick. The main constellation of splatters, the control panel, the shoes, and the wafers appear to hover just slightly



over their backgrounds. Krachey points her camera at scenes devoid of explicit action. The elements of construction reveal periods of transition. Mattern captures the personality of a location during the most inconspicuous time. At night, with its lighting and the absence of activity, the building's personality is illuminated. De La Garza provides snapshots of random people in unglamorous situations. They present authentic, very real portraits but also elevate these common, maybe lowly moments into a historical record.

The four artists focus their attention onto differing subject matter, but they all present change. Obsolete technology, encroachment, real estate development, and individual histories all look back at a moment that is passing. It's not nostalgic, but matter-of-fact. A memory that fades is a memory forgotten. Frozen in time, the memory sits silently on the surface.

— Salvador Castillo

Visual Arts

EVENTS

BLANTON MUSEUM: ART FIX is a series of short programs on art and art-making, music, and lifestyles, held on the first and third Thursdays of each month (6-6:45pm) and repeating on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month (noon-12:45pm). In July learn about the principles of Feng Shui and gardening in connection with works of art in the Blanton's collection. **Artistic License Artist Talk:** *Thu., July 27, 7-8pm. MLK Boulevard & Congress Avenue, 471-7324. Free with museum admission. www.blantonmuseum.org.*

OPENING

AVAA: BEYOND SCANNER: THE ANIMATORS' SHOWCASE After watching Richard Linklater's film *A Scanner Darkly*, you can see original works by the people who transformed the actors into digital animation. Reception: *Thu., July 27, 7-11pm. Exhibition: July 28-Aug. 12. 37th at Home Lane, 457-0075. Donations accepted. www.avaaonline.org.*

BOLM STUDIOS: FULFILL ME is a two-person multimedia show featuring the work of Alison O'Daniel and Michelle Mayer. Reception: *Fri., July 28, 7-11pm. Exhibition: Through Aug. 1. 5305 Bolm Rd. www.alisonodaniel.com.*

ATELIER 3-D is a sculptors' studio (formerly known as Austin Sculpture Academy), featuring ceramics, plaster, resin, and more; with indoor and outdoor art. Open Studio Tour: *Sat., July 29, 11am-7pm. 2209 Pasadena, 374-0580. www.atelier3-d.com.*

MEXIC-ARTE MUSEUM: ANNUAL YOUNG LATINO ARTISTS Youth goes wild in this annual exhibit that challenges societal stereotypes of a new genera-

tion. Reception: *Thu., Aug. 2, 6-9pm. Exhibition: Aug. 3-Oct. 1. 419 Congress, 480-9373. www.mexic-artemuseum.org.*

WOMEN IN THE STUDIO @ IDEA features contemporary paintings, sculptures, installations, and photographs by Jacqueline May, Benne Rockett, Elizabeth Underwood, and Tina Weitz, the fierce foursome working out of IDEA studio. Reception: *Thu., Aug. 3, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Through Aug. 29. 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468. www.ci.austin.tx.us/dougherty*

CLOSING

THE DONKEY SHOW: TAPE AND FLOAT features fantastic new installations by Rebecca Ward and Kurt Domenick Mueller. *Through July 30. 1706 Poquito, 740-2824. www.thedonkeyshow.org.*

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: NEVERMORE Candace Briceno transforms the gallery into a whimsical world of color and texture using hand-dyed felt to create glorious landscapes and sculpting flowers, fruits, and other vegetation that mimic yet transcend the natural world. *Through July 29. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.*

F8 FINE ART GALLERY: THE LAST PICTURE SHOW These guys are closing? Yes, one of the best galleries in town is being shuttered after six excellent years. Bid them adieu with this exhibition of work by Richard D. Griffin and Paul Stankiewicz. *Through July 31. 1137 W. Sixth, 480-0242. 1137 W. Sixth, 480-0242. www.f8fineart.com.*

CREATIVE RESEARCH LABORATORY: MAKING IT ALONE The first of two summer exhibitions introducing works by 11 MFA candidates, as curated by UT's Art History grad students. *Through July 29. 2832 E. MLK, 322-2099.*

THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, AUSTIN: SUMMER SHOW features a variety of works in a variety of media. *Through July 30. MFAA, Lincoln Village, North I-35, 767-3258. 371-1341. www.freewebs.com/mofaa.*

OKAY MOUNTAIN: ACTIVE DISAPPEARANCE The photos on display convey a sense of dim awareness brought to life and held only in stillness. The work of Anna Krachey, Andy Mattern, Adam Scheiber, and Bryan De La Garza explore similar themes as they document spaces and individuals. *Through July 29. 1312 E. Cesar Chavez Ste. B. www.okaymountain.com.*

ONGOING

STATE FAIR: PHOTOGRAPHS BY ARTHUR GRACE These images capture all that's unique to American state fairs. At the UT Center for American History, *through Aug. 31. 495-4518. www.cah.utexas.edu/news/gracex.html.*

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and sometimes (in rotation) others. *12400 Amherst #102. 825-8577. www.eycontactart.com.*

ADAMS AVENUE GALLERY: NORINE YUKON Color photography of Austin's natural treasures. *Through Aug. 21. 5601 Adams Avenue, 453-7788.*

ART ON 5TH: THE SECRET ART OF DR. SEUSS The wildly imaginative creations included in the collection show a previously unseen dimension of Theodor Geisel's art. *1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. www.arton5th.com.*

ART PALACE: COCONUTS Each of the five artists chosen for this exhibition were born between 1965 and 1985, the 20-year span covered in “Chicano Art: Resistance and Affirmation,” the influential exhibition organized by UCLA in 1990. Each attended art schools during the 1990's, an era often referred to as the multicultural decade; each, however, is part of a new generation of artists that can be described as post-ethnic. *Through Aug. 23. 2109 Cesar Chavez, 496-0687. www.artpalacegallery.com.*

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY is featuring work by artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez;



and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. 78 San Marcos, 457-0171.

ARTHOUSE AT THE JONES CENTER: NEW AMERICAN TALENT This 21st exhibition was selected by Aimee Chang, curator of Contemporary Art at the Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, Calif. *Through Aug. 20. 700 Congress, 453-5312. www.arthousetexas.org.*

ARTSPOKEN GALLERY: AIR A juried exhibition of works by local Austin artists. *Through Aug. 19. 1507 W. Koenig Lane.*

AUSTIN ART GLASS This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art, as well as glassblowing classes and free demonstrations. 1608 S. Congress, 916-4527. www.austinartglass.com.

AUSTIN MUSEUM OF ART: OVER + OVER: PASSION FOR PROCESS 255 playing cards plus eight years of collecting plus 100 surgical scalpel blades plus 200 feet of contact paper plus 300 hours of cutting: You get the picture. The exhibition brings together the work of a dozen artists who labor obsessively using ordinary materials with extraordinary results. *Through Aug. 6. 823 Congress, 495-9224. www.amoa.org.*

BLANTON MUSEUM “Paul Chan: Present Tense” investigates the complex role of religious belief in today’s political landscape. *Through Aug. 13. “WorkSpace: Carol Bove” allows viewers to witness art in the making. Through Oct. 1. MLK Boulevard & Congress Avenue, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.*

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS Unique handmade glass art and jewelry made by the staff and friends of the studio. 5241 N. Lamar, 380-0770. www.austinbluemoon.com.

TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM: IT STILL AIN’T BRAGGIN’ IF IT’S TRUE The Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum marks its fifth anniversary this year, with “STILL Ain’t Braggin’.” The exhibit explores the qualities of Vision, Friendship, Perseverance, Pride, Showmanship, and Swagger through unique objects and the stories they tell. And visitors will again be able to see the magnificent rhinestone-studded Cadillac covered with symbols of Texas. *Through Sept. 10. 1800 Congress, 936-8746. www.thestoryoftexas.com.*

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a non-profit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. 6601 Felix Ave., 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.

D BERMAN GALLERY: BELOW THE SURFACE : A DIFFERENT ORDER features wonderful new works by Jeffrey Dell and Marjorie Moore. *Through Aug. 26. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. www.dbermangallery.com.*

DAVIS GALLERY: SANDRA LANGSTON The artist has lived in Southern Italy for more than 20 years, expressing her unique view of the region through landscape paintings. *Through Aug. 19. 837 W. 12th, 477-4929.*

DIBONA STUDIO Here’s a studio/gallery devoted exclusively to the work of Joyce DiBona, including her newest oil paintings and a sculptural tattoo series. 404 W. Milton, 851-2646.

FIRE ISLAND HOT GLASS STUDIO specializes in functional and decorative works in glass for home and garden. Glassblowing demos: *Saturdays, 9am-noon. 3401 E. Fourth, 389-1100. www.fireislandglass.com.*

This is *What Art/Why Art*, a sculpture by Stephen Dubov, whose newly rechristened Atelier 3-D studio offers an open tour this Saturday.

Marjorie Moore’s mixed-media *Aves, Aves, Aves Group 5* is part of the current, intriguing exhibition at D Berman Gallery.

FLUX GALLERY: KAREN MANESS The exhibition features rich and expressive East Austin urban landscapes and figurative works. *Through Sept. 9. 2401 E. Sixth, Bldg. 2, 320-0753. www.austinfluxstudio.com.*

FRANCOIS PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY presents the photographic work of Kim Francois. 309-B Bowie, 320-0072.

GRAVITY CONSTANT STUDIOS: TERRY BEUTLER The gallery’s grand opening presents new paintings by Beutler, depicting an autobiographical journey. 301 Chicon St., Unit F, 415/254-5222.

TECHNOLOGIES OF WRITING AND THE IMAGE WROUGHT: HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHIC APPROACHES IN THE DIGITAL AGE “Technologies of Writing” explores the history, style, and technologies of writing from its earliest form to the present. “The Image Wrought” examines the seeming paradox of contemporary photographers embracing archaic photographic practices in today’s digital age. *Through Aug. 6. 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/HRC/HRHC.*

IDEA offers photography, encaustic painting, and concrete relief works by studio artists Jacqueline May, Deanna Miesch, Benné Rockett, Tina Weitz, and Elizabeth Underwood, on display in the Bread Factory, Suite A-3. 701 Tillery, 472-3349. www.idea-art.org.

KATHY WOMACK GALLERY features works by native Texan Kathy Womack. 411 Brazos #100. www.kwomack.com.

LA PENA GALLERY: LAS MUJERES Sabrina Zarco presents images in fiber, honoring the tradition, struggles, and lives of Latinas. *Through Aug. 4. 227 Congress, 477-6007.*

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: SUMMER GROUP SHOW New work by gallery artists Conrad Bakker, Karen Breneman, Francesca Gabbinani, Ewan Gibbs, and Jim Torok. Editions by Uta Barth, Vija Celmins, Gerhard Richter, and Ed Ruscha. *Through Aug. 19. 300 West Ave. #1318, 215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com.*

MITCHIE’S FINE BLACK ART has an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork and craft items on display. 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. www.mitchie.com.

THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA: THE MACHINES SHOW The exhibition in this intimate, quirky gallery surveys technology from the industrial revolution to today, with an emphasis on wondrous instruments, technological utopias, and forgotten machines. *Call for appt. 1808 Singleton, 320-0566. www.mnae.org.*

PHOTOGECKO STUDIOS presents an array of film/digital artist John Campbell’s black-and-white photographs. Monthly First Thursday events debut new images along with live music. 1413 S. First, 797-9375. www.photogeko.com.

PRO-JEX GALLERY: LAST CONFLICT features black-and-white photographs by John Stormberg depicting the four corners of Native American lands, especially the relationship between humans and land in context with the last remaining Sioux Indians before the reservations. Poetry by Raul Garza accompanies the works. *Through Aug. 31. 1710 S. Lamar Ste. C, 472-7707.*

SPACES

BETH MCELHANEY GALLERY McElhaneys’ handmade jewelry *par excellence* is available at her new digs, which she shares with Pro-Jex Gallery in South Austin. 1710 S. Lamar Ste. B.



BELLA BLUE BOUTIQUE: TWO STEF(PH)ANIES Paintings of succulents by Stephanie Nance are paired with new Nopolito pottery by Stefanie Distefano in this gallery-in-a-boutique. 2213 S. First, 691-5800.

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY is a working studio and gallery of stained & leaded glass and mosaics artwork. 701 Tillery, Ste. A-11, 389-2266. www.decola-eusebi.com.

CSR ENTERTAINMENT GROUP features photography and original works on canvas by Texas author and artist Christopher Rogers. 1709 San Antonio Street #8. 653-9938. www.csrentertainment.com.

ARTWORKS GALLERY features tropical butterflies artfully displayed in plexiboxes designed by GW Clark. 1214 W. Sixth, 472-1550.

THE CATHEDRAL OF JUNK is approximately 60 tons of junk wired together over 15 years to form intricate towers and rooms in the back yard of an, we guess you might say, average South Austin home. Hours: *Sundays, 11am-2pm, or by appt. 4422 Lareina, 299-7413. www.keepaustinweird.com.*

CROFTS ORIGINAL presents new jewelry in gold and silver by local artist Michelle Podell of Zahava Kala. 1714 S. Congress, 445-6308.

CULTURAS DE ARTE is a new gallery featuring Mexican folk art (statues, paintings, home decor, masks, and more) as well as unique works by proprietor Julian Orozco. 3311 N. I-35 Ste. C, 473-2302. www.artcultures.com.

CYPRESS GRILL: HOT HOT HOT The Creative Arts Society and the Waterloo Watercolor Group team up for a watercolor exhibit featuring 18 artists. *Through Aug. 24. 4404 W. William Cannon Ste. L, 358-7474. www.cypressgrill.net.*

FAIRHURST GALLERY Features paintings by Ava Sharifian, woodcrafts by Coleman Kelly and jewelry by Sasha Murphy. 5453 Burnet Rd., 323-0650.

FAWTEL ART showcases photo and graphic impressionism by A.J. Montrose. 447-2790. www.fawtel.com.

PHOTOGRAPHY: TIME OUT Joey Gidseg’s images feature portraits and photojournalism. Reception: *Sat., Aug. 5, 7pm. Exhibition: Aug. 1-31. 4700 Grover, 452-6168.*

LAS MANITAS: BONES Images of bones, skulls, and skeletons enliven the drawings and paintings of Matamoros native Alejandro Goga. *Through Aug. 4. 211 Congress, 472-9357.*

NORTH HILLS GALLERY: SHADES OF SUMMER Annis Allen and Joy Harris. *Through July 30. 7050 Village Center Dr., 345-1743.*

The work of Alison O'Daniel is featured, along with creations by Michelle Mayer, in the new "Fulfill Me" exhibition at Bolm Studios.

PAGGI HOUSE: ART BY RUBY Corpus Christi native Chris Powell presents a range of works in oil pastels, acrylics, and mixed mediums. *Through Aug. 16.* 200 Lee Barton Dr., 499-8835. www.paggihouse.com.

PARADISE CAFE: SUZANNE BROWN Abstract expressionism. *Through Aug. 30.* 401 E. Sixth, 476-5667.

ROADHOUSE RELICS is a vintage-neon gallery and studio where artist Todd Sanders creates neon signs, eye-popping carnival banners, and other tributes to U.S. popular culture. *1720 S. First, 442-6366.* www.roadhouserelics.com.

RUTA MAYA: POLLY JACKSON Paintings and pastels. *Through Aug. 31.* 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.rutamaya.net.

SHORELINE GRILL: TRANSITIONS Art professor Chuck McCarter explores dreams and death in his latest works. *Through Aug. 18.* 98 San Jacinto, 477-3300. www.shorelinegrill.com.

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

AUSTIN GUITARTOWN SCULPTURES Texas-based artists can submit their artwork for consideration for this project featuring up to 50 10-foot-tall Gibson guitar sculptures placed in and around Austin this summer. Check their Web site for details. www.austinguitartown.com.

GRAPHIC DESIGN CONTEST "Reading: Always an Adventure" is the theme for the CivilizedNation.com competition. Check their Web site for details. Deadline: July 31. www.civilizednation.com/contest/read.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES WORKSHOPS will provide a comprehensive view of the public art-making process, including how to apply for city and noncity funded opportunities and how to create submission packets. *Saturdays, 11am-1pm.* From the Studio to Public Art: *July 29, 1204 Cedar.* Going Digital: *Aug. 26, 1165 Angelina.* Selection Panels: *Sept. 30, 1165 Angelina.* Free. www.cityofaustin.org/aipp.

AMOA: SUMMER CLASSES AT THE ART SCHOOL In the unique and serene setting of AMOA-Laguna Gloria. Classes for children and adults. 3809 W. 35th.

2006 BLUE GENIE ART BAZAAR Applications are currently being accepted for the latest Blue Genie Art Bazaar, taking place Dec. 6-24. All media are considered. See their Web site for details. Application deadline: *Oct. 2.* 916 Springdale, 444-6655. www.bluegenieart.com/art_bazaar_event.html.

FLATBED PRESS: PRINTMAKING CLASSES in the cool, air-conditioned Flatbed studio. Solar Plate with Katherine Brimberry: *July 29.* 2830 E. MLK, 477-9328.

VSA ARTS OF TEXAS: CLASSROOM SUMMER KICK OFF for the New VSA Multi-Arts Classroom, creating a society where people with disabilities can learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts. E-mail for details. 3710 Cedar, 454-9912 x11. larissa@vsatx.org.

Litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

ROBERT FRANEK The publisher and editorial director for the *Princeton Review* and author of *The Best 361 Colleges* talks about college admissions. *Tue., Aug. 1, 7pm.* Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

JOHN SHORS presents his *Beneath a Marble Sky*, a novel about the building of the Taj Mahal. *Sat., July 29, 3pm.* Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.

TRACY JONES presents her short cut to the fast-food diet numbers game, *Smart-Carb Guide to Eating Out.* *Sat., July 29, 3pm.* BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.



JENNIFER ZIEGLER presents her witty Austin novel *Alpha Dog*. Give the local girl her bow-wow props while the Town Lake Animal Shelter collects donations and pet toys and provides pet adoption information. *Sat., July 29, 5pm.* BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

TEEN FEST The Austin Public Library hosts this third annual celebration recognizing teens who spent part of their summer reading. Free games, activities, prizes, snacks, drinks, a live DJ (Hue-E), slam poets, Karaoke Revolution, and info booths about local organizations like Texas Runaway Hotline, Youth Interactive, and Toros (NBA Development League). *Sat., July 29, 2-4pm.* Carver Library, 1161 Angelina, 472-8954. www.ci.austin.tx.us/library.

RONALD L. DAVIS presents his *Zachary Scott: Hollywood's Sophisticated Cad*. Davis used interviews with Scott and his friends along with correspondence from the Scott papers at UT and from Warner Brothers' archives. *Sat., July 29, 6pm.* Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. Free. www.zachscott.com.

ALTERNATIVE RADIO with Stephen Kinzer, the author of the books *Overthrow* and *All the Shah's Men*, talks about the US-backed coup against Iran's secular democracy in 1953. David Barsamian hosts. *Fri., July 28, 2pm.* 91.7 KOOP-FM. www.koop.org.

PEOPLE UNITED features the indomitable Helen Thomas, author of *Watchdogs of Democracy? The Waning Washington Press Corps and How It Has Failed the Public*. She has a Q&A with city residents; columnist Molly Ivins asks the first question. Allan Campbell hosts, with commentary from Rahul Mahajan. *Fri., July 28, 1pm.* 91.7 KOOP-FM. www.koop.org.

★ **MIKE HENRY: 24-HOUR NONSTOP SLAM** It was scheduled then postponed at the last minute, goddammit; but here, now, this weekend, is the real deal: Mighty Mike Henry, who's led the Austin Poetry Slam for most of its 12 years, attempts the ultimate endurance test for a poet. He'll read aloud for 24 consecutive hours and three minutes ending at 8:03pm on Saturday, July 29. This marathon reading is doubling as a fundraiser for the 2006 National Poetry Slam, which will bring as many as 70 teams of poets from North America and Europe to Austin for four days of poetic combat in August. Mike performs most of the 300-plus poems in the set solo, although members of past and present slam teams collaborate with him on some ensemble pieces. He also plans to wear a different one of his hallmark black T-shirts for each of the 24 hours of the reading. Make a pledge for this slam-a-thon at the Web site below. Highly recommended! *Fri., July 28, 8pm.* Progress Coffee, 500 San Marcos (on Fifth, two blocks east of I-35), 493-0963. www.nps2006.com.

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

SPIRITUAL DIALOGUES BOOK GROUP aspires to *Inspiration* by Wayne Dyer. *Sun., July 30, 4:30pm.* Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

THE UTTER READING SERIES always has the best of new and in-progress works from local authors and poets. Always a great way to see how it kinda sorta really works. *Tue., Aug. 1, 7pm.* BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

MILWOOD BRANCH BOOK CLUB throws *Stones From the River* by Ursula Hegi. *Tue., Aug. 1, 7:30pm.* Milwood Branch Library, 12500 Amherst.

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

THE INTERACTION OF PEN, PAPER, AND SCRIBE: THE TECHNICAL AND AESTHETIC FORCES THAT SHAPE OUR LETTERFORMS is a lecture by art history professor Mark Van Stone of Southwestern College in California. It focuses on how English writing employs every principle and kind of sign used in hieroglyphic writing from Ancient Egypt and Mesoamerica. *Thu., July 27, 7pm.* Harry Ransom Center, 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. Free. www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/HRC/HRHRC.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

FARFELU MAGAZINE seeks your work for their fall issue. *Farfelu* is a nonprofit magazine devoted to the work of Austin writers and artists. Editors Elisabeth McKetta and Kim Pyle are seeking quality work in all genres, including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, paintings, drawings, cartoons, and photographs. See their Web site for details. Deadline: *Aug. 1.* www.farfelumagazine.com.

OPEN MICS

UNPROTECTED POETRY! This event is not all to do with erotica but everything to do with fighting for your right to say it. Presented by EbonySunlnk and Another Option, with free snacks and spirits. Every other Thursday. *Thu., July 27, 7pm.* Victory Grill, 1104 E. 11th, 391-0174. \$5 after 8pm.

SASHA'S RUSSIAN MARKET with your hosts Eric Wheeler and Kathleen Romana. Poetry and music. And Sasha's has chocolate! *Tuesdays, 7-9pm.* 7817 Rockwood. 459-1449.

NEO-SOUL is a certified Slam venue, and they're looking for a second team to represent Austin in August. *Wednesdays.* Antonio's Tex-Mex Cafe & Cantina, 7522 N. I-35 Ste. B, 419-7070. \$6. www.antoniosstxmex.com.

CAFFEINATED POETRY (with added live music) is a new open-mic venue open to musicians and poets. Hosted by Thom the World Poet. Every Wednesday, except the first Wednesday when they all go to Vinny's, 7-9pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473.

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry captains the crew that has all the best of stand-up, performance art, theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one electrifying evening. \$100 in prizes every week; open mic precedes the main event. *Wednesdays, 8pm.* Ego's, 510 S. Congress, 474-7091. www.austinslam.com.

MONDAY NIGHT POETRY at Genuine Joe's, hosted by Justin Parker. *Mondays, 8-10pm.* Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576. www.genuinejoe.com.

HIDEOUT MIC is always an Open Universe event with your newest host, Bevin Shaw. *Mondays, 7-10pm.* The Hideout Coffeehouse, 617 Congress, 476-0473. \$2 or canned food for Poets' Pantry. www.thehideout.org.

AUSTIN JAVA COMPANY features open-mic poetry and spoken word with your hosts, Rhiannon and Christopher Robin. *Thursdays, 7-10pm.* Java Lounge at Austin Java, 1206 Parkway, 476-1829. www.austinjava.com.

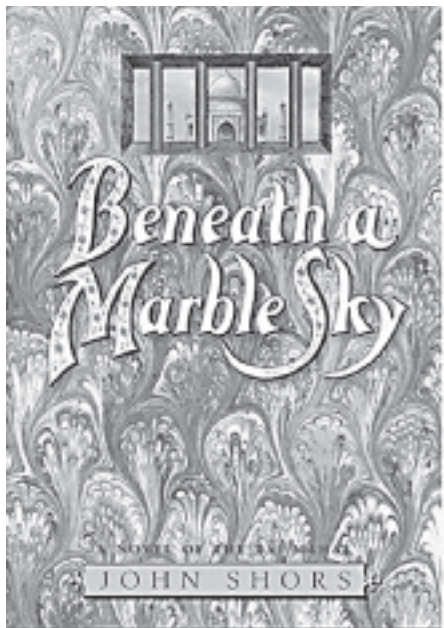
POETRY @ LA TAZZA FRESCA features John Berry, Eric Wheeler, India Rassner-Donovan, and Kathleen Romana. Hosted by Kathleen Romana and johnniZanni. *Fri., July 28, 7-9pm.* La Tazza Fresca, 519 W. 37th, 453-0403.

THE POETRY KARAOKE ORCHESTRA backs your poetry on the porch, with hosts Ivanho and Chris the Future. Bring canned foods for the Poets' Pantry. *Tuesdays, 8-10pm.* Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.rutamaya.net.

RUTA MAYA One of the longest-running open mics in Austin, hosted by Aaron and maslow. And it's so danged popular that they've added another hour! Three hours of mighty South Austin Poetry Power! Donations accepted for Poet's Pantry. Individual's performance recording available for small donation. *Tuesdays, 6-9pm.* Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.freespeechart.com.

SHOOTING STARS with your hosts Kathleen Romana and Eric Wheeler who want your beautiful poetry and the sublime terrors of your watchful heart. Say yes. *Thursdays, 7-9pm.* Shooting Stars Coffee, 6539 N. Lamar, 377-3334.

VENTANA DEL SOUL SUNDAYS is now hosted by Mandy Singer and features writing sessions, performances, and special guests. *Sundays, 6-9pm.* Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. www.ventanadelsoul.org.



▲ John Shors presents his book about the building of the Taj Mahal this weekend at Barnes & Noble.

FIRST WEDNESDAYS @ VINNY'S is an open mic for all persuasions. Red, white, rose, dark, amber, pale. Hosted by Kathleen Romana. *Vinny's Italian Cafe, 1003 Barton Springs Rd., 482-8484.* Free.

MISCELLANEOUS

TECHNOLOGIES OF WRITING and "The Image Wrought: Historical Photographic Approaches in the Digital Age" are exhibitions that include stone inscriptions from Troy, Greek papyri, Mayan hieroglyphs, and examples of early and contemporary photographs. *Through Aug. 6.* *Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., noon-5pm.* Harry Ransom Center, 21st and Guadalupe. 471-8944. www.hrc.utexas.edu.

MORE POETRY! *there is a wall, a longing that will not be bridged save sometimes in a red roaring & even then a silence follows that leaves a man with an echoing sorrow forever softening as grief retreats into a whitening resignation, a wound that will not heal that will not scar that will not speak save in the voice of a moaning flesh, an ache that has no center yet suffers the everywhereing of the heart.* Namaste. Vaya con dios.

POEM OF THE ISSUE

it's weird how hollywood reflects life people really talk in life really when someone has a moment a break down a break up a revelation they i'm not allowed though because i'm shy but if i was i'd say - Yalmot, "I'll Get Back to You"

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Who Killed the Electric Car?

D: Chris Paine. (PG, 92 min.)

Opening with a mock funeral for General Motors' EV1 electric car, this multifaceted documentary seeks the culprit responsible for its demise and finds plenty of blame to go around. Arriving as it does on the heels of Al Gore's surprise Hollywood hit, *An Inconvenient Truth*, which has caused the issue of global warming to enter the popular zeitgeist, *Who Killed the Electric Car?* seems like the obvious if circumstantial follow-up. Naturally appealing to environmentalists and techno motorheads, this film's story also unfolds like a good murder mystery, broadening its scope into areas such as grassroots organizing, corporate conspiracies, and governmental interference.

The history of the electric car presented here is also a largely California-based saga due to the state's passage of the Zero Emissions Mandate in 1990 to deal with its smog problem. It required 2% of all new vehicles sold in California by 1998 to be emission-free. GM and the other American auto manufacturers began working on prototypes to fulfill the mandate, and by 1996 GM released the EV1, a completely electric-powered car that required no gasoline or motor oil. Despite consumer happiness with the vehicle, the entire fleet of EV1s was recalled by GM in 2001, and the film explores the reasons why. The film interviews owners, auto makers, legislators, and engineers to find out why the car posed such a threat to the status quo and the welfare of the many auto-related industries. Most notably, the film uncovers the duplicitous GM campaign in which it agitated against the Zero Emissions Mandate while also complying with the law by building the required cars. Talking out of both sides of its mouth, GM waged war against its very own product, and numerous examples of this corporate dodge are enumerated in the film. Also highlighted is the current Bush administration's oil-friendly stance



and the demise of the EV1 that coincided with the Republican return to office and their alternative promotion of hydrogen fuel. Public attitudes against the perceived shortcomings of the electric car are not left off the hook either. The film devotes too much time to the emotional insights of laid-off EV1 sales-specialist-turned-activist Chelsea Sexton. And the sing-songy narration by Martin Sheen won't do much to woo the unconvinced. Yet you'll leave the film wondering why you've never seen a TV ad for an electric car, or why GM is all about selling Hummers these days.

★★★ Arbor

— Marjorie Baumgarten

New Reviews

AMERICA: FROM FREEDOM TO FASCISM

D: Aaron Russo. (NR, 105 min.)

Filmmaker Aaron Russo and a swelling movement of angry Americans make the case in this documentary that there is no law on the books that requires Americans to pay income taxes. Although Russo's film is grounded in Libertarian theory, the producer-turned-filmmaker presents some very provocative information in the film's first half, which argues that there is no legal basis for the payment of income taxes. He looks at the origins of the 16th Amendment and concludes, as many other tax resisters have over the years, that the amendment was never legally ratified by the states before its implementation in 1913. Russo speaks with former Internal Revenue Service workers who've grown disenchanted with the agency's inability to cough up a specific statute to support their endeavors and also speaks with various experts, authors, and average citizens. Russo spars with former IRS Commissioner Sheldon S. Cohen, who tries to explain what is meant by "voluntary compliance" and the meaning of various Supreme Court rulings that he finds inapplicable to the IRS. Yet the majority of Russo's speakers are supporters of his cause — a cause that

this former music promoter, former Bette Midler manager, producer of the films *The Rose* and *Trading Places*, and failed candidate in the Nevada governor's race is championing with this self-produced film. His efforts have been rewarded with a genuine grassroots campaign of viewer support, and in one of the odder examples of politics making strange bedfellows *America: From Freedom to Fascism* is being distributed by Cinema Libre Studio — the independent company that has also released such left-identified fare as *Uncovered: The War on Iraq*, *WMD: Weapons of Mass Deception*, *The Future of Food*, and Tim Robbins' *Embedded Live*. In between his experts' testimonies, Russo also highlights several cases of resisters' legal battles with the IRS that cast the agency as a bully that relies on intimidation and fear to get what it wants. However, just as the film's arguments start growing persuasive, Russo (who also narrates the movie) undermines his work by freefalling into a tangled web of all-out conspiracy-mongering. The Federal Reserve is taken to task for being the work of a rich cabal of banking interests. The decline of the gold standard and the secrecy and lack of auditing of Fort Knox are also seen as conspiratorial. Next, the film segues into the evils of the USA PATRIOT Act, electronic voting machines, national ID cards, and the new world order. It concludes with an impassioned plea for civil disobedience, but not before allowing Texas

congressman Ron Paul to have the last word. (The Libertarian-turned-Republican Paul, a central Texas representative and physician, is known in the House as Dr. No for his consistent voting against anything not required by the Constitution.) Though the technical credits and music used in *America: From Freedom to Fascism* are a bit substandard for a theatrical release, it's good to see that passionate cinematic rabble-rousing does not rest solely in the hands of the left.

— Marjorie Baumgarten

★★ AMC Barton Creek Square

THE ANT BULLY

D: John A. Davis; with the voices of Julia Roberts, Nicolas Cage, Paul Giamatti, Meryl Streep, Zach Tyler Eisen, Bruce Campbell, Lily Tomlin, Cheri Oteri, Larry Miller. (PG, 88 min.)

Consider the allure of the ant: Nowhere else can the budding entomologist decipher the physiological underpinnings of the family *formicidae* with such rapt attention, intuitively employing not only the more traditional methods of anatomical study, but also such kidhood staples as the magnifying glass, the power-jet watering hose, and the vulcanized Stride Rite sole. Call these pint-sized explorers ant bullies if you must, but this interspecies backyard battleground is often also the birthplace of scientific wonder. (And pipsqueak sadism, of course, but the two are frequent if uncomfortable allies in the youthful war on ignorance.) That Warner Bros. has chosen to craft an animated film around childhood's fascina-

tion with all things small and squirmy is interesting — the project is adapted from John Nickle's children's book — but it makes for a strange time at the movies. The story is both simple and worthy of an issue of EC Comics' *Weird Science*: 10-year-old beanpole-cum-bully-target Lucas (Eisen), who regularly takes out his feelings of victimization on the anthill in his front yard, finds himself a part of that very colony when ant-wizard Zoc (Cage) shrinks this towering "destroyer" down to more manageable size. Despite the colony's brief flirtation with devouring their suddenly edible arch-foe, the Queen Ant (Streep) mandates that he be trained to "become an ant," if not in leg count then certainly in spirit. This Lucas does, with commendable results and thanks in no small part to his ant "mentor," Hova (Roberts), climaxing in an airborne third-act battle with Giamatti's stoogie-chomping exterminator. Director Davis has previously helmed the televised *Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius* and is no slouch in the animation department. *The Ant Bully* glows with vibrant greens and violets and moves with all the resolute forward motion of, well, an ant. Unfortunately it's also as seemingly arbitrary in its meanderings, with various vocal work coming in out of left field (Ricardo Montalban as the head of the ant council is more or less wasted) and a storyline that just doesn't add up to all that much we haven't seen before, or done better, and frequently both. Kids will likely dig the triumph of the little guys, geeks will convulse with knowing glee at the nod to classic sci-fi flick *Them!*, and adults will puzzle over the script's oddly brazen socialist politics (this is like Entomology 101 as taught by Noam Chomsky). It all adds up to a peculiar whole: fun I suppose, but not what you'd call a picnic.

— Marc Savlov
★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

FREE ZONE

D: Amos Gitai; with Natalie Portman, Hana Laszlo, Hiam Abbass. (NR, 90 min., subtitled)

AFS@Dobie. Free Zone's opening sequence — an unbroken, 10-minute-long shot of Portman weeping in the back of a rainswept automobile — so thoroughly sums up the seemingly self-perpetuating emotional, political, and spiritual states of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as to render the other 80 minutes of this film utterly superfluous. Still, Israeli filmmaker Gitai has much on his mind during the remaining running time, and while his film is frequently as frustrating (and very nearly as protracted) as its real-world counterpart, the maelstrom of chaos churning at the heart of his story should serve as a lesson to Westerners who wonder — or, more likely, don't wonder very much at all — "What the hell's wrong with those people?" Gitai, who directed the Israeli segment of the ambitiously global anthology film *11'9"01: September 11*, here limits his players to a mere trio, all of them women. Portman plays Rebecca, an American who has arrived in Israel only to have her soldier-fiancé leave her in the

lurch (and, stingingly, stranded beside the Wailing Wall). Unmoored, she begs a ride from Hana (Laszlo), the wife of a man who makes his living retrofitting armor onto passenger cars. Hana is on a mission to Jordan, where she hopes to collect a debt of \$30,000 from "the American" with whom her husband conducts business. After a drive that's part travelogue and part snooze (during which Rebecca marvels at the eerie proximity of "the things you only see on television"), Hana reluctantly accepts some equally reluctant assistance from Leila (Abbass), a Palestinian woman as flighty as Hana is stoic. Together the three skirt the edges of a regional calamity, both literally and figuratively, as they thrust and feint their way through an ideological quagmire that, as in the real world, seems to be at once glaringly simple to resolve and maddeningly devoid of an exit strategy. Gitai's film is lashed to current events even more than when it was initially released (in Europe and the Middle East; it's also been much ballyhooed as the first Israeli feature to be shot in an Arab country), and it's impossible to separate what you see on the theatre screen from what awaits you at home on CNN. This gives the film an almost surreal patina of hyper-reality and makes for a bizarre viewing experience made all the more so by the actors' blithely matter-of-fact conversations. Gitai is plainly hoping to expand on the arguments that fuel the ongoing barrage of Middle East ordnance, but the milieu he chooses — essentially one long, queerly prosaic car ride to nowhere — robs the film of much of its dramatic force. Of course, he's also, apparently, presenting the Arab-Israeli conflict as the world's most annoying dysfunctional family road trip, which renders the proceedings almost as exhausting as the real thing. Even with Natalie Portman in the back seat, that's a hell of a ride and twice as combustible. — Marc Savlov

★★★ Dobie

JOHN TUCKER MUST DIE

D: Betty Thomas; with Jesse Metcalfe, Brittany Snow, Ashanti, Sophia Bush, Arielle Kebbel, Penn Badgley, Jenny McCarthy. (PG-13, 87 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Attention Christie Brinkley! The supermodel, whose fourth husband has just been caught two-timing her, might find some pointers in this new high school dating comedy. When three gorgeous, popular girls discover that

Openings

America: From Freedom to Fascism (NR)

The Ant Bully (PG)

Free Zone (NR)

John Tucker Must Die (PG-13)

Miami Vice (R)

Omkara (NR)

Scoop (PG-13)

Who Killed the Electric Car? (PG)

Ratings

★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be

★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless

★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points

★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots

★ Poor, without any saving graces

✂ La bomba

the captain of the basketball team has been dating them all, they conspire to make him "undatable" and teach him a lesson. Who says you can't get no satisfaction? — Marjorie Baumgarten

Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

MIAMI VICE

D: Michael Mann; with Jamie Foxx, Colin Farrell, Gong Li, Naomie Harris, Giarán Hinds. (R, 132 min.)

Very nearly as electrifying as one of South Beach's ubiquitous pastel-peach beachfront cabanas, or, alternately, an iridescently deceased jellyfish stranded at low tide and awash in sand fleas, Mann's edgy (read: underlit) take on the vacuous Eighties television cop-opera takes perhaps one too many cues from its cathode predecessor. For one thing, it's all style

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HANNA LASLO
MIAMI ABBASS

FREE

Fri: (4:00) 7:10, 9:30;
Sat/Sun: (1:00, 4:00) 7:10, 9:30; Mon-Thur: 7:10, 9:30

"Hilarious!" —The New Yorker
STRANGERS WITH CANDY
Fri: (4:30) 7:30, 9:40; Sat/Sun: (1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 9:40;
Mon-Thur: 7:30, 9:40

★★★★★ "Brilliantly irreverent!" —Earl Dittman, WIRELESS MAGAZINE

CLERK II
Fri: (4:20) 7:20, 9:50; Sat/Sun: (1:20, 4:20) 7:20, 9:50; Mon-Thur: 7:20, 9:50

"Twisted...A Major Head Trip." —Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE
A SCANNER DARKLY
Fri: 7:00, 10:00; Sat: (1:10) 7:00, 10:00;
Sun: (1:10) 7:00; Mon-Thur: 7:00

NICK NOLTE SCOTT MECHLOWICZ
PEACEFUL WARRIOR
Fri-Sun: (4:10); Mon-Thur: 10:00

SHOWTIMES FOR FRI, JULY 28 – THURS, AUG. 3
Bargain Showtimes in ()

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Sorry, No Passes Accepted For This Engagement.
For Additional Information, Call Theaters Or Check Directories.

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE DOWNTOWN 409-B Colorado, 476-1320. Seating begins one half-hour before showtime. Admission is 18 and up. AFS events are all ages.

Buffy Sing-Along: Tue, 9:45pm

Whitehead Series: *The Fall:* Mon, 7:30pm

Favela Rising: Tue-Thu (8/3), 7:00pm

Whitehead Series: *Fire in the Water:* Sun, 4:30pm

Forbidden Animation: Wed-Thu (8/3), 9:30pm

Terror Thursday: *Guardian of Hell:* Thu (8/3), 12mid

Foleyvision: The Hindi Superman and Worldwide Super Oddities: Sun, 7:00, 9:45

Music Monday: *Metal Storm: The Scandinavian Metal Wars:* Mon, 9:45pm

Raiders of the Lost Ark: Fri-Sat, 12mid

Raiders of the Lost Ark: *The Adaptation:* Fri-Sat, 7:00, 9:45

Weird Wednesday: *T.N.T. Jackson:* Wed, 12mid

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK 13729 Research, 219-8135.

***Clerks II:** 12:30, 3:35, 7:25, 10:05

Click: Fri-Wed, 12:15, 3:05, 7:05, 10:15; Thu (8/3), 3:05, 7:05, 10:15

The Devil Wears Prada: 12:10, 3:25, 7:10, 10:10

***John Tucker Must Die:** 12:05, 3:15, 7:35, 10:35

***Lady in the Water:** 12:00, 12:35, 3:00, 3:30, 7:00, 7:30, 10:00, 10:25

You, Me and Dupree: 12:25, 3:10, 7:15, 10:30

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320.

Kids Club: *The Apple Dumpling Gang:* Sat, 12:00pm

***Clerks II:** 11:45am, 2:10, 4:35, 7:20, 9:55pm

Summer Movie Camp: *Destroy All Monsters:* Mon-Thu (8/3), 1:00pm

An Inconvenient Truth: 12:25pm

Kids Summer Camp: *The Last Unicorn:* Fri, 1:00pm

Miami Vice: 12:10, 3:25, 7:05, 10:10

My Super Ex-Girlfriend: Fri-Wed, 1:135am, 2:00, 4:25, 7:15, 9:40pm; Thu (8/3), 1:135am, 2:00, 9:40pm

Pirates of the Caribbean: *Dead Man's Chest:* 12:00, 2:45, 6:35, 7:00, 10:00

Movies & Music: "A Scanner Darkly Extravaganza: Thu (8/3), 7:00pm

A Scanner Darkly: Fri, 4:45, 7:30, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:30, 10:05pm; Mon-Tue, 4:45, 7:30, 10:05; Wed, 10:05pm

Slam Planet: Thu (8/3), 10:15pm

Superman Returns: Fri, 3:20, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 10:20pm; Mon-Wed, 3:20, 10:20; Thu (8/3), 3:20pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE 2700 W. Anderson, 476-1320. Tuesday matinee "Baby Day" shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old. AFS events are all ages.

***Lady in the Water:** 1:00, 3:55, 7:10, 10:05

Pirates of the Caribbean: *Dead Man's Chest:* 11:45am, 3:20, 7:00, 10:25pm

The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid

Superman Returns: Fri, 3:30, 7:05, 10:20; Sat-Wed, 12:00, 3:30, 7:05, 10:20; Thu (8/3), 12:00, 3:30, 7:05

Videokee: Fri, 12mid

You, Me and Dupree: Fri-Wed, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:50; Thu (8/3), 1:15, 4:15, 7:15

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesdays.

Clerks II: 12:40, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:20

An Inconvenient Truth: 12:10, 2:25, 4:40, 7:00, 9:30

Leonard Cohen: I'm Your Man: 11:45am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50pm

Nobility: Sat, 7:00, 9:00; Sun, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00

A Scanner Darkly: 12:20, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10

Scoop: 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

Strangers With Candy: 12:30, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15

Who Killed the Electric Car?: 11:40am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40pm

Wordplay: 11:50am, 2:10, 4:30, 7:20, 9:20pm

BARTON CREEK CINEMA (CINEMARK) Highway 360 and Walsh Tarlton, 306-1688. Discounts daily before 6pm.

Clerks II: 11:55am, 2:15, 4:40, 7:30, 10:05pm

The Devil Wears Prada: 11:10am, 1:45, 4:20, 7:15, 10:00pm

Lady in the Water: 11:00am, 11:40, 1:40, 2:20, 4:30, 4:55, 7:10, 7:40, 9:45, 10:20pm

Little Man: 11:25am, 1:55, 4:25pm

Miami Vice: 11:45am, 12:20, 2:55, 3:40, 6:45, 7:20, 9:50, 10:20pm

My Super Ex-Girlfriend: 11:35am, 2:00, 4:35, 7:05, 9:35pm

Pirates of the Caribbean: *Dead Man's Chest:* 11:05am, 12:30, 2:30, 4:00, 6:05, 7:00, 7:45, 9:30, 10:15pm

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) Barton Creek Square mall (MoPac and Highway 360), 306-9190. Matinee discounts before 6pm.

America: From Freedom to Fascism: Fri-Sun, 10:15am, 12:35, 3:05, 5:35, 8:05, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu (8/3), 12:35, 3:05, 5:35, 8:05, 10:35

The Ant Bully: Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 11:00, 12:05, 1:05, 2:10, 3:10, 4:15, 5:20, 6:25, 7:30, 8:35, 9:40, 10:45pm; Mon-Thu (8/3), 11:00am, 12:05, 1:05, 2:10, 3:10, 4:15, 5:20, 6:25, 7:30, 8:35, 9:40, 10:45pm

Cars: Fri-Sat, 10:55am, 1:40, 4:20pm; Sun, 10:00am, 1:40, 4:20pm; Mon-Thu (8/3), 11:00am, 1:40, 4:20pm

Click: Fri, 8:20, 10:55; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 3:00, 8:20, 10:55; Mon-Thu (8/3), 12:30, 3:00, 5:40, 8:20, 10:55

The Da Vinci Code: Fri-Tue, 7:00, 10:10; Wed, 10:10pm; Thu (8/3), 7:00, 10:10

John Tucker Must Die: Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 11:05, 12:10, 1:10, 2:15, 3:20, 4:25, 5:30, 6:35, 7:40, 8:45, 9:50, 10:50pm; Mon-Thu (8/3), 11:05am, 12:10, 1:10, 2:15, 3:20, 4:25, 5:30, 6:35, 7:40, 8:45, 9:50, 10:50pm

The Lake House: Fri-Sun, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (8/3), 10:20pm

Monster House: Fri-Sat, 10:05am, 11:20, 12:25, 1:30, 2:30, 3:40, 4:40, 5:50, 7:05, 9:15pm; Sun, 10:05am, 12:25, 1:30, 2:30, 3:40, 4:40, 5:50, 7:05, 9:15pm; Mon-Thu (8/3), 11:20am, 12:25, 1:30, 2:30, 3:40, 4:40, 5:50, 7:05, 8:10, 9:15pm

Omikara: 12:15, 3:25, 6:30, 9:45

A Prairie Home Companion: Fri-Sun, 12:20, 5:10, 7:35; Mon-Thu (8/3), 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00

Scoop: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 12:45, 3:10, 5:25, 7:45, 9:55pm; Sun-Thu (8/3), 12:45, 3:10, 5:25, 7:45, 9:55

Superman Returns: Fri-Sun, 10:45am, 2:00, 5:15, 8:30pm; Mon-Thu (8/3), 2:00, 5:15, 8:30

You, Me and Dupree: Fri-Sat, 10:05am, 12:40, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45pm; Sun-Thu (8/3), 12:40, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45

DOBIE THEATRE 2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FLIM.

Clerks II: Fri, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50; Mon-Thu (8/3), 7:20, 9:50

Free Zone: Fri, 4:00, 7:10, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 9:30; Mon-Thu (8/3), 7:10, 9:30

Peaceful Warrior: Fri-Sun, 4:10, 10:00; Mon-Thu (8/3), 10:00pm

A Scanner Darkly: Fri, 7:00, 10:00; Sat, 1:10, 7:00, 10:00; Sun, 1:10, 7:00; Mon-Thu (8/3), 7:00pm

Strangers With Candy: Fri, 4:30, 7:30, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:40; Mon-Thu (8/3), 7:30, 9:40

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305. Call theatre for showtimes on Thu., July 13.

The Ant Bully (in DLP digital): 11:10am, 1:10, 3:10, 5:15, 7:15, 9:20, 11:25pm

Clerks II: Fri-Sat, 11:30am, 1:35, 3:40, 5:45, 7:50, 10:05, 12:10am; Sun-Thu (8/3), 11:30am, 1:35, 3:40, 5:45, 7:50, 10:05pm

John Tucker Must Die: 11:20am, 1:25, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:25, 11:30pm

Lady in the Water (in DLP digital): 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30, 11:55pm

***Little Man:** 11:05am, 1:10, 3:15, 5:25, 7:40, 9:50, 11:50pm

Miami Vice (in DLP digital): 11:05am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:30pm

***Monster House (in DLP digital):** 11:00am, 1:00, 3:00, 5:05, 7:10, 9:15, 11:20pm

***My Super Ex-Girlfriend:** 11:15am, 1:20, 3:30, 5:35, 7:45, 10:00, 12:05am

Pirates of the Caribbean: *Dead Man's Chest (in DLP digital):* 11:00am, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 10:00pm

Superman Returns: 1:05, 4:10, 7:05, 10:10

GATEWAY THEATRE 9700 Stonelake Blvd., between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 x3808.

The Ant Bully: 12:10, 2:30, 4:55, 7:10, 9:25

Cars: 12:50, 3:50

Click: 4:00, 10:00

The Devil Wears Prada: 11:40am, 2:10, 4:45, 7:15, 10:10pm

John Tucker Must Die: 12:35, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:20

Lady in the Water: 11:35am, 12:05, 2:05, 2:35, 4:35, 5:10, 7:15, 7:45, 9:45, 10:15pm

Little Man: 12:45, 3:05

Miami Vice: 11:45am, 12:15, 2:50, 3:20, 7:00, 7:30, 10:00, 10:40pm

Monster House: 12:30, 2:55, 5:15, 7:35, 9:50

Monster House (digital projection): 12:00, 2:25, 4:45, 7:05, 9:20

My Super Ex-Girlfriend: 12:20, 2:45, 5:05, 7:25, 9:40

Pirates of the Caribbean: *Dead Man's Chest:* Fri, 12:25, 3:15, 3:45, 6:20, 6:50, 7:20, 9:35, 10:05, 10:35; Sat, 11:55am, 12:25, 3:45, 6:20, 6:50, 7:20, 9:35, 10:05, 10:35pm; Sun, 12:25, 3:15, 3:45, 6:20, 6:50, 7:20, 9:35, 10:35; Mon, 12:25, 3:15, 3:45, 6:20, 7:20, 9:35, 10:05, 10:35; Tue-Thu (8/3), 11:55am, 12:25, 3:15, 3:45, 6:20, 6:50, 7:20, 9:35, 10:05, 10:35pm

Pirates of the Caribbean: *Dead Man's Chest (open captioned):* Fri, 11:55am; Sat, 3:15pm; Sun, 11:55am, 10:05pm; Mon, 11:55am, 6:50pm

Superman Returns: 12:40, 6:40

You, Me and Dupree: Fri-Mon, 11:50am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:25pm; Tue, 11:50am, 5:00, 7:50pm; Wed, 2:20, 5:00, 10:25; Thu (8/3), 11:50am, 5:00, 7:50pm

You, Me and Dupree (open captioned): Tue, 2:20, 10:25; Wed, 7:50, 11:50; Thu (8/3), 2:20, 10:25

IMAX THEATRE Texas State History Museum (1800 N. Congress), 936-IMAX.

Deep Sea 3D: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 3:00, 7:00, 10:00; Sun, 3:00, 7:00; Mon-Thu (8/3), 12:00, 3:00, 7:00

Ride Around the World: *A Cowboy Adventure:* Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8pm; Sun, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00; Mon-Thu (8/3), 11:00am, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8pm

Roving Mars: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 5:00, 9pm; Sun, 5:00pm; Mon-Thu (8/3), 10:00am, 5:00pm

Texas: The Big Picture: 1:00pm

LAKELINE STARPORT Lakeline Mall at Highway 183 and RR 620, 335-4793. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesday.

The Ant Bully: 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

Cars: 12:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50

Family: *Hoodwinked:* Tue-Thu (8/3), 10:00am

Family: *Jonah: A Veggie Tales Movie:* Tue-Thu (8/3), 10:00am

Miami Vice: 12:10, 4:10, 7:20, 10:25

Monster House: 11:30am, 12:00, 2:10, 2:40, 4:40, 5:00, 7:10, 7:30, 9:40, 10:10pm

My Super Ex-Girlfriend: 11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:50, 10:15pm

Pirates of the Caribbean: *Dead Man's Chest:* 11:40am, 12:50, 3:00, 4:30, 6:50, 8:10, 10:20pm

Superman Returns: 12:40, 4:20, 8:00

METROPOLITAN South I-35 at Stassney, 447-0101.

Clerks II: 11:50am, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:05pm

The Devil Wears Prada: 11:35am, 2:15, 5:05, 7:55, 10:40pm

Lady in the Water: 11:40am, 12:40, 2:20, 4:30, 5:00, 7:15, 7:45, 10:00, 10:35pm

Little Man: 11:40am, 2:35, 5:20, 7:50, 10:30pm

Miami Vice: 11:30am, 12:05, 1:00, 2:45, 3:30, 4:15, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:15, 10:45pm

My Super Ex-Girlfriend: 11:50am, 12:30, 2:15, 3:00, 4:50, 5:30, 7:20, 8:00, 9:50, 10:35pm

Nacho Libre: 12:15, 2:55, 5:20, 8:05, 10:30

Pirates of the Caribbean: *Dead Man's Chest:* 11:45am, 12:20, 1:15, 3:15, 4:40, 5:15, 6:45, 8:15, 9:30, 10:25pm

MILLENNIUM THEATRE 1156 Hargrave, 472-6932. Located within the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex.

Over the Hedge: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 2:15, 6:15pm; Wed-Thu (8/3), 10:30am, 1:15pm

See No Evil: Fri-Sat, 12:15, 4:15, 8:15; Wed-Thu (8/3), 4:15pm

PARAMOUNT THEATRE 713 Congress, 472-5470.

Annie Hall: Sat, 7:00pm; Sun, 2:00pm

The Apartment: Thu (8/3), 9:15pm

Ball of Fire: Tue, 9:05pm; Wed, 7:00pm

Funny Girl: Sat, 3:15pm; Sun, 7:00pm

Hannah and Her Sisters: Sat, 9:10pm; Sun, 4:10pm

His Girl Friday: Tue, 7:00pm; Wed, 9:15pm

One, Two, Three: Thu (8/3), 7:00pm

The Seven Year Itch: Fri, 9:40pm

Some Like It Hot: Fri, 7:15pm

ROUND ROCK 8 2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm.

***The Ant Bully:** 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:20, 9:30pm

Cars: 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30pm

Ice Age: Tue-Thu (8/3), 9:30am

***John Tucker Must Die:** 10:45am, 1:30, 4:20, 7:30, 9:40pm

***Lady in the Water:** Fri-Mon, 10:30am, 1:15, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50pm; Tue-Thu (8/3), 1:15, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50

Little Man: 8:00, 10:30

***Miami Vice:** 10:05am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10pm

***Monster House:** 10:15am, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05pm

***My Super Ex-Girlfriend:** 7:50, 10:10

Pirates of the Caribbean: *Dead Man's Chest:* 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:15

You, Me and Dupree: 11:10am, 2:00, 5pm

TINSELTOWN NORTH North I-35 and FM 1825 (Pflugerville), 989-8540.

***The Ant Bully:** 9:05am, 9:35, 11:30, 12:00, 2:00, 2:30, 4:30, 5:00, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30pm

Cars: 9:25am, 12:35, 3:35, 6:30pm

***Clerks II:** 9:15am, 11:55, 2:40, 5:20, 7:55, 10:40pm

Click: 10:10am, 1:05, 3:45, 6:45, 9:35pm

The Devil Wears Prada: 10:50am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00pm

***John Tucker Must Die:** 9:55am, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30pm

***Lady in the Water:** 10:45am, 11:15, 1:35, 2:05, 4:25, 4:55, 7:15, 7:45, 10:05, 10:35pm

***Little Man:** 4:50am, 7:25, 9:10, 9:40, 10:10, 11:40, 2:15am

***Miami Vice:** 9:30am, 10:00, 12:40, 1:10, 3:50, 4:20, 7:00, 7:30, 10:10, 10:40pm

***Monster House:** 9:00am, 9:30, 11:30, 12:00, 2:05, 2:30, 4:40, 5:00, 7:05, 7:35, 10:20pm

***My Super Ex-Girlfriend:** 9:00am, 11:25, 1:55, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40, 10:15pm

Pirates of the Caribbean: *Dead Man's Chest:* 10:15am, 10:40, 11:50, 1:50, 2:20, 3:25, 5:25, 6:00, 6:55, 9:00, 9:30, 10:25pm

Superman Returns: 11:40am, 3:20, 6:55, 10:30pm

You, Me and Dupree: 11:15am, 2:00, 4:55, 7:40, 9:25, 10:35pm

TINSELTOWN SOUTH South I-35 at Stassney, 326-3800.

***The Ant Bully:** 10:35am, 12:10, 12:55, 1:40, 3:40, 5:00, 6:55, 7:45, 9:35, 10:05pm

Cars: 10:20am, 12:50, 1:15, 3:45, 4:10, 6:50, 9:40pm

Click: 11:00am, 1:55, 4:50, 7:25, 7:50, 10:00, 10:20pm

The Da Vinci Code: 10:15am, 1:30, 4:45, 9:15pm

The Fast and the Furious: *Tokyo Drift:* 11:10am, 1:35, 4:35, 7:20, 9:55pm

Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties: 10:25am, 12:30, 3:25pm

***John Tucker Must Die:** 10:30am, 11:25, 12:45, 1:50, 3:35, 4:40, 7:10, 8:00, 9:45, 10:20pm

***Monster House:** 10:55am, 11:35, 12:40, 1:20, 2:00, 3:35, 4:15, 4:55, 6:45, 7:55, 9:30, 10:25pm

A Scanner Darkly: 10:40am, 1:25, 4:45, 7:35, 10:10pm

Superman Returns: 11:40am, 3:30, 7:30, 9:20pm

Waist Deep: 7:30, 10:35

***You, Me and Dupree:** 11:05am, 1:10, 1:45, 3:50, 4:30, 7:05, 7:40, 9:50, 10:25pm

WESTGATE 11 South Lamar and Ben White, 899-2717. Discounts daily before 6pm.

The Ant Bully: 11:50am, 2:10, 4:35, 7:20, 9:30pm

Cars: 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30pm

Family: *Cheaper by the Dozen 2:* Tue-Thu (8/3), 10:00am

Family: *Curious George:* Tue-Thu (8/3), 10:00am

The Devil Wears Prada: 12:10, 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:20

John Tucker Must Die: 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

Lady in the Water: 11:40am, 2:20, 5:05, 7:45, 10:15pm

Miami Vice: 12:10, 4:00, 7:05, 10:10

Monster House: 11:15am, 1:50, 4:25, 7:00, 9:15pm

My Super Ex-Girlfriend: Fri-Sun, 12:05, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:35; Mon, 12:05, 2:30, 4:50; Tue-Thu (8/3), 12:05, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:35

Pirates of the Caribbean: *Dead Man's Chest:* 11:30am, 2:50, 6:20, 7:15, 9:45, 10:30pm

Superman Returns: 11:10am, 2:35, 6:15, 9:40pm

You, Me and Dupree: 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 7:55, 10:25

► **An asterisk (*) before a title means that no passes or special admission discounts will be accepted.**

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FOR UPDATED SHOWTIMES, SEE austinchronicle.com/film.

precious little substance, drowning in a chromium murk (courtesy of *Collateral's* director of photography Dion Beebe), which manages to make this most garish of Floridian playscapes into a dreary, overcast hellscape, alternately queasy and threatening. For another, Farrell and Foxx, as libidinous detective Sonny Crockett and his marginally more grounded partner detective Ricardo Tubbs, have all the mumbly chemistry of a late Mickey Spillane hangover. There's style to burn, but its not the kind you'd want to have on your walls, unless crimson back-spatter is the "new black." The script, from Mann, has the formerly five-o'clock-shadowed duo chasing down a rogue drug cartel and Sonny falling for sexy Asian money launderer/moll Li, but the real emphasis here is on globe-hopping. The film jets (and "go-fast" boats) from stateside to Cuba to Colombia to elsewhere with the only noticeable result being that you may well want to book next year's summer holiday in old Havana – the place, in Mann's universe, anyway, has lost little of the sleazy charm on display in 1964's slice of Soviet agitprop *Yo Soy Cuba*, and I hear tell the cigars are to die for. There's plenty of death in *Miami Vice* as well, predictably so, with double-crosses galore and a token appearance by the Russian mob and the Aryan Brotherhood, two criminal enterprises not known for their sartorial splashiness. Even former style avatars Crockett and Tubbs appear to be dressing down these days, trading in their goofy Eighties Italianate pastels for more somber hues worn with the deadly air of men on their way to a funeral, preferably their own. *Miami Vice's* one saving grace, and it's a slim one indeed, comes from Mann's tried-and-true, ultra-choreographed ballistics ballets, including one deafening, third-act rain of cordite and lead that threatens to make you leave the theatre limping. And that's the good news. Perhaps vice isn't what it used to be, or maybe Crockett and Tubbs just aren't all that interesting when removed from their appropriate time slot, but this may well be the dreariest and most monochromatic time you'll have at the movies all summer.

– Marc Savlov

★► Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND

D: Ivan Reitman; with Uma Thurman, Luke Wilson, Anna Faris, Eddie Izzard, Wanda Sykes. (PG-13, 95 min.)

You'd think that the director behind *Ghostbusters* and a writer/producer for *The Simpsons* could get together and make one hilariously outrageous movie. Well, think again. While director Reitman and writer Don Payne collaborate to provide intermittent laughs, in the end this high-concept farce



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Dirt

Dirt (2005) *D: Jeff Bowden. (NR, 81 min.)* **Austin Film Festival.** This Audience and Documentary Jury Award winner from the last Austin Film Festival follows a season of Mesquite's Devil's Bowl Speedway and is replete with an oversized cast of characters who run the gamut from outrageous to sublime. A Q&A with the filmmakers and driver Gayla Jones (above) will follow the screening. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 7:30pm; \$6, AFF members free. TUES 7/27

performs with unfortunate restraint, never igniting the kind of serious laughter you can experience from his stand-up work. While Sykes (*Monster-in-Law*) doles out her all-too-familiar shtick, she still manages to steal every scene she's in. And Rainn Wilson (*The Office*, American version) is repeatedly very funny. It seems that Payne saved all *The Simpsons*-worthy lines for him. Thanks to his deadpan performance, you will experience an occasional chuckle, but the conventional plot and absence of character dimension will most likely get the better of even the biggest Uma fans. – *Toddy Burton*
★ Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

OMKARA

D: Vishal Bhardwaj; with Ajay Devgan, Saif Ali Khan, Vivek Oberoi, Kareena Kapoor. (NR, subtitled)
Not reviewed at press time. Shakespeare's *Othello* is reimagined for the Indian audience in this Hindi-language film. The director also filmed *Maqbool* in 2003, his reinterpretation of *Macbeth*. – *Marjorie Baumgarten*
AMC Barton Creek Square

SCOOP

D: Woody Allen; with Scarlett Johansson, Allen, Hugh Jackman, Ian McShane. (PG-13, 96 min.)
Woody Allen's previous film, *Match Point*, seemed to signal a rebirth of sorts for the aging auteur. Apart from the opening credits, Allen's signature style was absent, save for thematic similarities to his bril-

A Scanner Darkly Extravaganza

A Scanner Darkly Extravaganza (2006)
D: Richard Linklater; with Keanu Reeves, Robert Downey Jr., Woody Harrelson, Winona Ryder, Rory Cochrane. (R, 100 min.) **Movies & Music.** This special screening of Linklater's latest will be preceded by a half-hour concert by the film's music composer, Graham Reynolds, who will perform a suite of themes from the movie. See austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2006-07-07/screens_feature2.html for more about Reynolds and www.originalalamo.com for reservations. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, Thu. (08/03) 7pm; \$16.



liant *Crimes and Misdemeanors*, and the film itself was as taut and involving as any thriller in years. Allen attributed the breath of fresh air to a change of settings (New York to London) and to his discovery of a new muse in actress Johansson. Judging from his follow-up, *Scoop*, the novelty of these elements wore off quickly. Allen's second British film with Johansson finds the director falling back into the rut he carved for himself with every forgettable comedy since the underrated *Deconstructing Harry*. Unlike *Match Point*, his fingerprints here are apparent from the first scene, during which recently deceased journalist Joe Strombel (McShane) rides a Grim Reaper-driven boat to the afterlife. Bored, Strombel makes small talk with the victim of a notorious London serial killer and discovers that the murderer is likely famous playboy Peter Lyman (Jackman). Strombel is livid: The story of the year just fell into his lap, but he can't pursue it. Not to be dissuaded, he jumps off the boat and manages to materialize in front of a plucky young journalism student, Sondra Pransky (Johansson). At the moment, she is volunteering in a magic show put on by neurotic illusionist Sid Waterman (Allen). Strombel's ghost shares the tip and demands that Pransky and Waterman find the evidence to write an article exposing the criminal. Once she meets the charming Lyman though, Pransky finds herself falling for him. Johansson's performance as a naïve college student is a stretch, and while Jackman tries hard, he can't overcome the fact that his part only exists to serve the plot. Allen puts forth an inspiring amount of energy, but he's certainly not breaking new ground with this caricature that he's played many times before. However, Allen executes the screwball setup with impeccable comic timing, and the murder-mystery plot unfolds with the same subversion of audience expectations that made the third act of *Match Point* such a nail-biter. Still, it all feels inconsequential. There are

plenty of opportunities for Allen's acute philosophical musings on death, love, and fate, but he aims only for laughs. Often, he gets them, especially in several scenes in which Waterman pretends to be Pransky's rich father at cocktail parties. But *Scoop* suffers from the same problem as much of Allen's recent work: Even when the witty banter clicks, it seems stale. In fact, it often seems possible that Allen already used some of the jokes verbatim in one of his three dozen previous films. Years ago, when Allen's inimitable comedy style still seemed fresh, *Scoop* may have joined the ranks of *Sleeper* and *Take the Money and Run* as a comedy classic. Today it provides a pleasant diversion, but will likely be forgotten by most along with other recent efforts like *Small Time Crooks* and *Curse of the Jade Scorpion*. – *Brian Clark*
★★ Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square

First Runs

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

★ CLERKS II

D: Kevin Smith; with Brian O'Halloran, Jeff Anderson, Rosario Dawson, Trevor Fehrman, Jennifer Schwalbach Smith, Jason Mewes, Kevin Smith, Zak Charles Knutson. (R, 98 min.)
Kevin Smith regains solid footing with this sequel. Twelve years have passed since we left counter clerks Dante Hicks (O'Halloran) and Randal Graves (Anderson) at the New Jersey Quick Stop and next-door video store. Their thoughts and conversations are still as raunchy and witty as they were when they were in their 20s, and their aspirations are just as absent as they were a decade ago. They now work at Mooby's, a themed fast-food joint. The addition of Dawson as the restaurant manager almost single-handedly elevates the quality of Smith's movie, which is predominantly performed by his usual ragged repertory corps. Another newcomer, Fehrman, is also a standout and Jay (Mewes), as one half of the Smith's recurring pot-dealing duo Jay and Silent Bob, has never been sharper or funnier. Smith's filmmaking technique has matured a bit, along with his characters; yet

Randal and Dante, despite approaching middle age, remain as profane and scatological as ever – if not more so. (07/21/2006) – *Marjorie Baumgarten*
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, CM Barton Creek, Dobie, Highland, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

CLICK

D: Frank Coraci; with Adam Sandler, Kate Beckinsale, Christopher Walken, David Hasselhoff, Henry Winkler, Julie Kavner, Sean Astin, Joseph Castanon, Tatum McCann. (PG-13, 97 min.)
Having fast-forwarded through the best parts of his own life thanks to a magical, universal remote control, Sandler's rat-racing architect, Michael Newman, withered by age and regret, literally crawls through a driving rainstorm toward his forgotten family, dying all the way and desperate for one final connection. The whole sequence is calculated to badger the tears from your eyes, and it almost does. But what got to me wasn't the character's predicament, but the sheer gall of the filmmakers and star, who, by this point in the film, have managed to turn a splendid (if obvious) storyline into something that feels as phony as a prefab cardboard casket. Written by Sandler's stable of former SNL scribes and directed by *Waterboy's* Coraci, *Click's* melodramatic "family first" message evokes depressingly by-the-numbers emotionalism: It's a message movie whose real message isn't "Stop and Smell the Roses, Jackass," but "How to Manipulate the Audience in 12 E-Z Steps." (06/23/2006) – *Marc Savlov*
★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA

D: David Frankel; with Meryl Streep, Anne Hathaway, Emily Blunt, Stanley Tucci, Adrian Grenier, Tracie Thoms, Rich Sommer, Simon Baker. (PG-13, 106 min.)
The Devil Wears Prada offers a wicked look into the top tier of the fashion world. Hathaway plays Andy Sachs, an aspiring journalist and fashion naïf who has just landed a job at *Runway* magazine, the bible of fashion, whose editor Miranda Priestley (Streep) has a reputation as a dragon lady. In a very smart move, Streep underplays the part so that her Miranda never needs to raise her voice to get what she wants – either as a boss or as the ultimate arbiter of all things fashion. Also wonderful is her No. 1 assistant, Emily (Blunt). When the film is in the presence of Streep and Blunt it bubbles like a glass of champagne, but Hathaway gets bogged down in Andy's dreary story about learning that there's more to life than not selling your soul for a pair of Jimmy Choo's. (06/30/2006) – *Marjorie Baumgarten*
★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, CM Barton Creek, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

★ AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH

D: Davis Guggenheim. (PG, 100 min.)
There's no question about it: This is the Al Gore 2.0 version. The figure presented in this documentary is not the Al Gore whom people found too stiff and impersonal during the 2000 elections. The film is essentially a document of Gore's traveling slide show about the global-warming crisis, a presentation he's been perfecting in auditoriums across the globe over the last few years. The show is lively and heartfelt – a persuasive call to action, although it's not without some wonkish climate charts and graphs. Nevertheless, as a film, *An Inconvenient Truth* is a treasury of information. Guggenheim fills out the slide-show material with some personal background about the former vice-president that allows Gore to expand on his cause in more emo-

Nobelity

Nobelity (2006) *D: Turk Pipkin. (NR, 85 min.)* This locally produced documentary looks at pressing world problems through the eyes of numerous Nobel laureates in the U.S., France, Great Britain, India, and Africa. The inspirational work takes a long-term look at problems and solutions and encourages personal action. Director Pipkin will be in attendance at the 7 and 9pm shows both nights for this last Austin screening before its New York premiere and theatrical release. For more on the film see austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Issue/story?oid=oid%3A346293. @Arbor, Sat., 7, 9pm; Sun., 1, 3, 5, 7, 9pm; \$10 at RunTex.com or door.



Hannah and Her Sisters

Hannah and Her Sisters (1986) *D: Woody Allen; with Woody Allen, Michael Caine, Mia Farrow, Carrie Fisher, Barbara Hershey, Dianne Wiest. (PG-13, 106 min.)* **Summer Film Classics.** The inner lives of neurotic New Yorkers, whose family ties and friendships are all intertwined, are carved up by Allen like the Thanksgiving Day turkey that they come together and share every year in a recurring gathering that underscores the changes that have occurred in the interval. (Double bill: *Annie Hall*) @Paramount, Sat., 9:10pm; Sun., 4:10pm; \$7 adults (\$6 before 6pm), \$5 children/students/seniors; \$45 Flix-Tix book (10 admissions).



tional terms. The most potent idea he puts forth is that "in America, political will is a renewable resource." (06/02/2006) — *Marjorie Baumgarten*
 ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor

LADY IN THE WATER

D: M. Night Shyamalan; with Paul Giamatti, Bryce Dallas Howard, Jeffrey Wright, Bob Balaban, Sarita Choudhary, Cindy Cheung, M. Night Shyamalan, Mary Beth Hurt, Freddie Rodriguez. (PG-13, 110 min.)

While *Lady in the Water* manages to be both perplexing and glaringly obvious, it's also a commendable effort to create a modern fairy tale from the seabed up. However you feel about Shyamalan's end result, you can fault neither his ambition nor his peculiar vision, which commingles elements of fantasy, horror, and the real world (itself increasingly fantastical and horrific) to craft a surreal, slightly off-kilter twilight tone that Rod Serling would recognize in a heartbeat. *Lady in the Water*, however, is murky where it most requires clarity, and the spindliness of its mythic pilings leaves the whole of the film tilting wildly toward the silly. Giamatti's powerful performance very nearly snatches *Lady in*

the *Water* from the jaws of hokum — performances are bang-on and characters fascinating right across the board, even Shyamalan's own — but ultimately *Lady in the Water* capsizes under the weight of its own goofy story. (07/21/2006) — *Marc Savlov*
 ★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

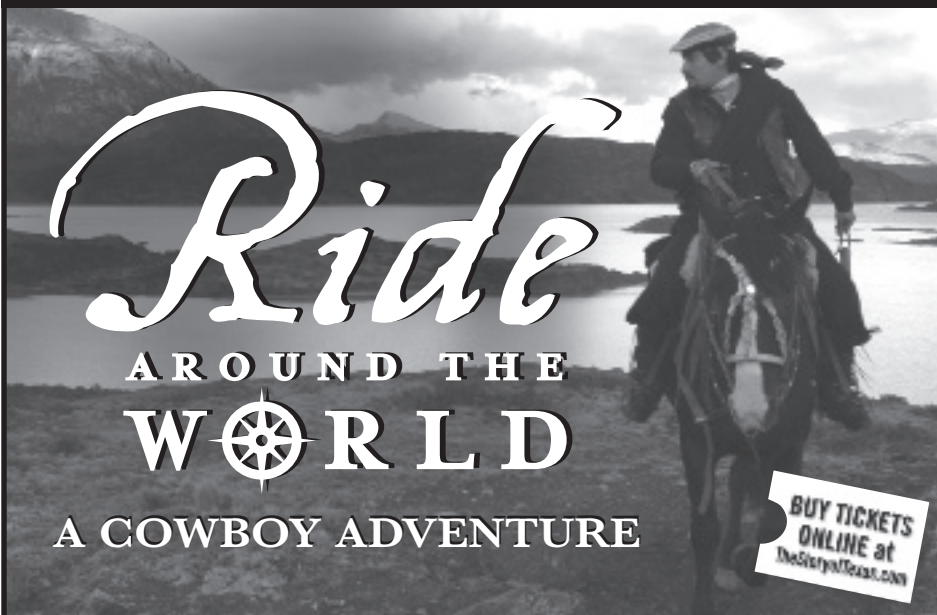
★ LEONARD COHEN: I'M YOUR MAN

D: Lian Lunson. (PG-13, 104 min.)

Part concert film and part biography, Lunson's *Leonard Cohen: I'm Your Man* is a moving tribute to this legendary artist's life and career. Moreover, the film salutes four decades of Cohen's songwriting output, a strategy that happily steers the movie toward an appreciation of the 71-year-old Cohen's musical legacy rather than the kind of dutiful hagiography that clouds so many other artist portraits. The concert recorded for the film took place in January 2005 in Sydney, Australia. Overseen by the maverick producer Hal Willner, the show featured an esteemed collection of musicians and vocalists performing and interpreting a vast array of Cohen

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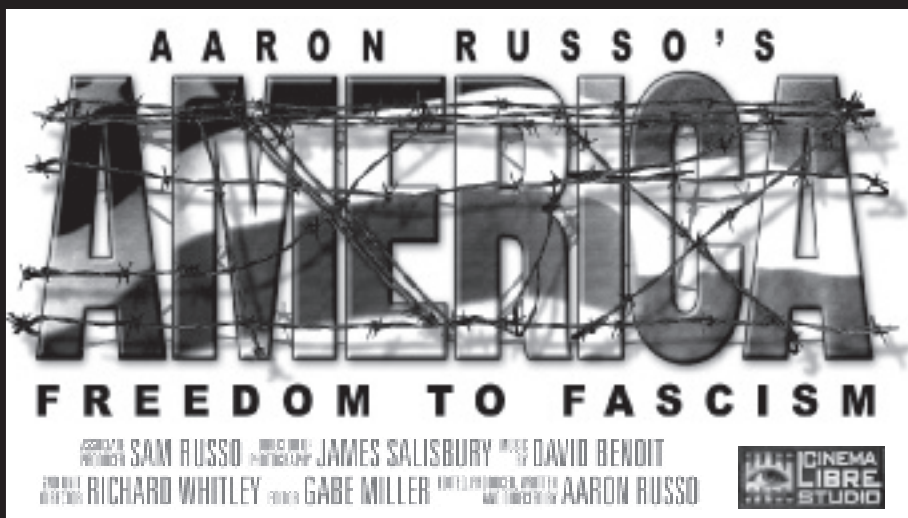
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- Jeff Craig, Sixty Second Preview

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Raiders of the Lost Ark: The Adaptation

Raiders of the Lost Ark: The Adaptation (2003) *D: Eric Zala; with Chris Strompolos, Angela Rodríguez, Eric Zala. (NR, 100 min.)* Imagine spending your teen years devoted to filming a shot-for-shot remake of the action classic *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. That's what Eric Zala, Jayson Lamb, and Chris Strompolos did between the ages of 12 and 18. Their effort resulted in a world premiere at the Alamo in 2003, a profile in *Vanity Fair*, and a deal for a soon-to-be-released movie based on their experiences. The threesome will attend the screenings, and the 9:45pm screening is double-billed with a midnight screening of the original *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. (For more on the adventure see austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Issue/tory?oid=oid%3A161565.) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Fri., 7, 9:45; Sat., 12mid.

songs. Among the most prominent are Nick Cave, Rufus Wainwright, Kate and Anna McGarrigle, Beth Orton, Martha Wainwright, Linda Thompson, and Antony Hegarty. Shrewdly, the film showcases only portions of the show, while intercutting footage of the director's conversations with Cohen reflecting on his career. (07/14/2006) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★★★★ Arbor

LITTLE MAN

D: Keenen Ivory Wayans; with Marlon Wayans, Shawn Wayans, Tracy Morgan, Kerry Washington, John Witherspoon, Chazz Palminteri. (PG-13, 90 min.)
This Wayans farce is about a diminutive ex-con (Marlon Wayans, whose face has been digitally superimposed upon the body of a little person) who poses as a founding baby in order to retrieve a stolen diamond. He lands on the doorstep of a Buppie couple (Shawn Wayans and Washington) who take him in despite the protestations of cranky Pops (Witherspoon). They dress him in outrageous jam-mies with ears. They take his temperature rectally. It's almost as painful and humiliating to watch as I imagine it would be to actually experience these events as a little person infantilized and held captive by idiots. Occasionally the movie actually tries to be about the emotional states of parenthood and family, but its heart isn't in it because it has no heart. (07/21/2006) – Marrit Ingman ✎ CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North

MONSTER HOUSE

D: Gil Kenan; with the voices of Steve Buscemi, Michael Musso, Nick Cannon, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Jon Heder, Kevin James, Jason Lee, Sam Lerner, Spencer Locke, Catherine O'Hara, Fred Willard. (PG, 91 min.)
Equal parts Ray Bradbury and rickety carnival spook show, this animated tale of a carnivorous, haunted house and the band of neighborhood kids who decide to put it out of commission feels mad-deni-gally unfinished, as though it were tinkered with in post-production, rejiggered unnecessarily, and finally let loose during the entirely inappropriate summer months, when it ought to be arriving on All Hallows Eve. Bad timing aside, the story is a wispy thing that, surprisingly, given its Steven Spielberg and Robert Zemeckis producerial pedigree, fails to adequately evoke the sheer kidhood magic of the Halloween season. *Monster House's* animation is its best aspect, working up a blood red and purple color palette that fairly screams “Boo!,”

but even the genuinely creepy sight of this monstrous manse uprooting itself from its foundation and chasing the kids down the block can't make up for the confused tone of the script, which is seemingly pitched at neither youngsters nor adults. (07/21/2006) – Marc Savlov ★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

PEACEFUL WARRIOR

D: Victor Salva; with Nick Nolte, Scott Mechlowicz, Amy Smart, Tim DeKay, Paul Wesley. (PG-13, 120 min.)
Psychological impediments keep hotshot UC Berkeley gymnast and stridently cocksure Olympic hopeful Dan Millman (Mechlowicz) relatively earth-bound and emotionally constrained. What this arrogant prick needs is less post-practice bed-hopping and more inscrutable Zen koans from the likes of Nolte's mysterious midnight auto mechanic, who tutors Dan in the higher psychological arts, à la *The Karate Kid*. *Peaceful Warrior* is adapted from Millman's semiautobiographical novel, and it's an odd, puzzling film. For instance, what are we to make of Nolte's nameless cipher? *Warrior* has elements of suspense, thriller, even horror films, but it also seems to be striving for more than the simple brass ring of the usual sports biopic. There's a genuine sense of mystery. Above all, there's Nolte. It's mostly hoo-hah, but there are moments in this New-Agey, feel-semigood crowd-pleaser that rise above and beyond the ropes, rings, and willfully calm psychobabble. (06/23/2006) – Marc Savlov ★★ Dobie

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST

D: Gore Verbinski; with Johnny Depp, Orlando Bloom, Keira Knightley, Jack Davenport, Bill Nighy, Jonathan Pryce, Stellan Skarsgård, Naomie Harris, Geoffrey Rush. (PG-13, 150 min.)
Suffice it to say, *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest* is hardly the wildly overlong snoozer the 2½ hours required to view it might suggest. On the other hand, our Oceanic Friends have been transformed from simple, lovingly presented slices of sushi into all manner of bipedal beasts that are forced to do the bidding of Davy Jones (Nighy) as he captains *The Flying Dutchman* above and beneath the briny deeps in pursuit of Depp's still-brilliant caricature of unbuckled swash, “Captain” Jack Sparrow, he of the super-Max Factored lids



Ball of Fire

Ball of Fire (1941) *D: Howard Hawks; with Gary Cooper, Barbara Stanwyck, Dana Andrews. (NR, 111 min.)* **Summer Film Classics.** Stanwyck plays a street-wise nightclub singer/dancer who, on the run from gangsters, ends up hiding out in the home of eight uptight, very proper professors (led by Cooper) working on an encyclopedia. They are thrilled with her, begging her to stick around to help them define “slang.” One of the strangest riffs on *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* ever. – Louis Black (Double bill: *His Girl Friday*) (*) @Paramount, Tues., 9:05pm; Wed., 7pm; \$7 adults, \$5 children/students/seniors; \$45 Flix-Tix book (10 admissions).

Favela Rising

Favela Rising (2005) *D: Jeff Zimbalist and Matt Mochary. (NR, 80 min.)* Anderson Sa, a former child of the slums of Rio de Janeiro and a musician gifted with a powerful voice and keen intellect, has successfully used Afro-Reggae to unite the people of the favelas on all sides of the law. Zimbalist and Mochary's eye-opening film documents Sa's rise with gritty, powerful grace, interviewing not just the musician-cum-miracle-worker, but also the embattled citizenry. DJ Trey Lopez will play a set of Brazilian funk and hip-hop before the film on Thursday only. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Tue.-Thu. (08/03), 7pm.



and garishly effete mannerisms. Unlike the opening cannonade in what will eventually be a trilogy, this salvo is a bit much. Of course, there are those who would say the original was a bit much, and they'd be right. But pirate films by their very nature should always be a bit much, just not too much, if you catch my driftwood. (07/14/2006) – Marc Savlov ★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

A SCANNER DARKLY

D: Richard Linklater; with Keanu Reeves, Robert Downey Jr., Woody Harrelson, Winona Ryder, Rory Cochrane. (R, 100 min.)
It's back to the future for Linklater in his animated film version of Philip K. Dick's 1977 acclaimed science-fiction novel, *A Scanner Darkly*. Animating the film proves to be a terrific strategy, as it enhances the story's mood of squinty surveillance and ubiquitous uncertainty. The plot grows dense as the overall paranoia mounts, and there's no clarity as to who's spying on whom or what's real and what's drug-induced. In this regard, the movie, like Dick's book, is one of the best depictions of the drug-addled state. However, its accuracy doesn't fully compensate for the experience of confusion while watching the film. What *A Scanner Darkly* excels at is mood and tone, and Dick's story about there being no difference between cops and criminals in a world of pervasive surveillance is as cautionary a tale today and tomorrow as it was 30 years ago. Terrifically good performances are turned in by the entire cast. (07/07/2006) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, Dobie, Tinseltown South

STRANGERS WITH CANDY

D: Paul Dinello; with Amy Sedaris, Paul Dinello, Stephen Colbert, Greg Kinnear, Dan Hedaya, Deborah Rush, Allison Janney, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Matthew Broderick, Sarah Jessica Parker, Ian Holm. (R, 87 min.)
Strangers With Candy is the kind of TV show and movie that begs for a cult following. Surreal and hilarious, the comedy may not be for everyone, but when you get it, you can't stop laughing. With a format that lampoons afterschool specials, the writing is a brilliant collaboration of the obviously absurd and the wryly satirical. At once subtle and completely over the top, the comedy of co-creators Dinello, Colbert, and Sedaris rivals *The Simpsons* and *Team America: World Police* in its audacity and absurdity. The jokes are nonstop and the attention to detail, inspired. The premise of the film, expanded as a kind of “prequel” from the TV show, begins with Jerri Blank (Sedaris), the 46-year-old ex-junkie, ex-con returning to high school. Disturbingly genius, Sedaris (sister of David) takes on her role with a kind of Sellars-esque transformation. Fans of the show will rejoice and a few newbies will become converts. (07/21/2006) – Toddy Burton ★★ Arbor, Dobie

★ SUPERMAN RETURNS

D: Bryan Singer; with Brandon Routh, Kevin Spacey, Kate Bosworth, James Marsden, Frank Langella, Parker Posey, Eva Marie Saint. (PG-13, 154 min.)
Superman (Routh) returns to Earth seeming more like a humbled prodigal son than an invincible superhero. Everything is just as it was before, except that Superman's love, Lois Lane (Bosworth), has moved on. Director Singer and his fellow screenwriters, Michael Dougherty and Dan Harris, have concocted a delicate balancing act with their Superman epic: The film acknowledges the realities of the present day while also falling in line with the past. Singer's action sequences are terrific (and make us anxious to see the IMAX 3-D version of the film), although Singer employs the story's inherent father-son conflict and Christ iconography with thick brush strokes. The casting is excellent, but the actors, unfortunately, are given too little to do. We come away from the film with insufficient emotional attachment to these touch-stone American characters. Yes, this *Superman* soars, but he doesn't always take us with him. (06/30/2006) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

WORDPLAY

D: Patrick Creadon. (PG, 94 min.)
Wordplay is a documentary about crossword puzzles and their ardent fans, with specific focus on the daily puzzles in *The New York Times*; their editor, Will Shortz; and the annual American Crossword Puzzle Tournament. President Bill Clinton, comedian Jon Stewart, Yankee pitcher Mike Mussina, filmmaker Ken Burns, the Indigo Girls music duo – all are among the puzzle's famous devotees who talk about their daily fix on camera. Although it might seem that watching puzzlers work their solitary crosswords would be about as much fun as watching paint dry, that supposition is proved wrong by Creadon, whose camera manages to catch a sense of the mind's elasticity as it works a puzzle. Creadon fumbles a bit by focusing too much on the tournament in the latter half – a strategy too similar to the popular documentary *Spellbound*. However, the fact that *Wordplay* works as a film at all is a testament to its skill. (06/23/2006) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★ Arbor

YOU, ME AND DUPREE

D: Anthony Russo, Joe Russo; with Owen Wilson, Matt Dillon, Kate Hudson, Michael Douglas. (PG-13, 108 min.)
Studios probably gave *You, Me and Dupree* a green light without even reading a script. Imagine the pitch: “It's a wacky comedy with Owen Wilson, fresh off last summer's megahit *The Wedding Crashers*! And hey, there's a wedding in it!” So, it's a nice surprise that the filmmakers and cast deliver a funny, reasonably well-written diversion with some impressive acting and refreshing bits of real-

The Apartment

The Apartment (1960) *D: Billy Wilder; with Jack Lemmon, Shirley MacLaine, Fred MacMurray. (NR, 125 min.)* **Summer Film Classics.** This essential Wilder film smoothly combines trenchant social observation with hilarious comedy. Lemmon plays a company man who tries to climb the corporate ladder by loaning out his bachelor pad to illicitly trysting higher-ups. As usual, office politics makes for some strange bedfellows. (Double bill: *One Two Three*) (*) @Paramount, Thu. (08/03), 9:15pm; Fri. (08/04), 7pm.



ism. At first, the film adheres closely to an episodic formula. However, there's a tension throughout that threatens to sink it. For every scene that feels natural there's another that's obviously scripted to keep the film's target audience (i.e., those still quoting *The Wedding Crashers*) within their comfort zone. It's an awkward mix that culminates in a drawn-out, by-the-numbers conclusion. Sidestepping even half of the clichés of the final act might have kept the film from feeling so uneven and disposable. (07/14/2006) — Brian Clark

★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

Also Playing

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com.

CARS ★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

THE DA VINCI CODE ★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown South

THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS: TOKYO DRIFT ★★ Tinseltown South

GARFIELD: A TAIL OF TWO KITTIES ✪ Tinseltown South

THE LAKE HOUSE ★★ AMC Barton Creek Square

NACHO LIBRE ★★★ Metropolitan

OVER THE HEDGE ★★★ Millennium

A PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION ★★★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square


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WAIST DEEP ★★ Tinseltown South


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Punny Girl	Sat 3:15 - Sun 7
JULY 29-30 - WOODY ALLEN'S BEST	
Annie Hall (35mm)	Sat 7 - Sun 2
Hannah and Her Sisters (PG-13)	Sat 8:15 - Sun 1:30
AUGUST 1-2 - HOWARD HAWKS	
His Girl Friday	Tues 7 - Wed 9:15
Ball of Fire	Tues 9:15 - Wed 7
AUGUST 3-4 - BILLY WILDER COMEDIES	
One Two Three (New Print)	Thurs 7 - Fri 9:40
The Apartment (Re-release Print)	Thurs 9:15 - Fri 7
AUGUST 5-6 - BIG, BIG, BIG, BIG COMEDY	
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JACK MATHEWS, NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

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Special Screenings

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.

THURSDAY 27

Dirt (2005) See p.84.

Made in Secret: The Story of the East Van Porn Collective (2005) *D: East Van Porn Collective. (NR, 86 min.)* **aGLIFF.** A group of Vancouver friends, dissatisfied with the pornography they were viewing, vowed to make their own – and thus, a collective was born. This video illuminates their work, while remaining nonpornographic. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

Some Like It Hot (1959) *D: Billy Wilder; with Marilyn Monroe, Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon, George Raft, Joe E. Brown. (NR, 119 min.)* **Summer Film Classics.** When two musicians witness a mob hit, they flee the state in an all-female band disguised as women, but further complications set in. If Billy Wilder achieved nothing else in his entire career, he would still rank as one of the great masters of cinema for pulling off this comic tour de force. (Double bill: *The Seven Year Itch*) (*) @Paramount, 9:20pm.

The Being (1983) *D: Jackie Kong; with Martin Landau, Marianne Gordon, Bill Osco, José Ferrer, Dorothy Malone, Ruth Buzzi, Kinky Friedman. (R, 82 min.)* **Terror Thursday.** A gruesome alien monster is devouring the residents of sleepy Pottersville, Idaho, the “Spud Capital of the World.” The film also features Texas gubernatorial candidate in a small role. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

The Last Unicorn (1982) *D: Jules Bass and Arthur Rankin Jr.; with the voices of Alan Arkin, Jeff Bridges, Mia Farrow, Tammy Grimes. (G, 92 min.)* **Free Summer Kids Camp.** In this animated feature, a brave unicorn and a magician fight an evil king who wants to exterminate all unicorns. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 1pm; free.

The Seven Year Itch (1955) *D: Billy Wilder; with Marilyn Monroe, Tom Ewell, Evelyn Keyes, Sonny Tufts. (NR, 105 min.)* **Summer Film Classics.** That indelible image of Marilyn Monroe standing over the subway grating with her skirt blown waist-high by the wind comes from this Billy Wilder gem. Monroe stars as the innocent sexpot upstairs who drives the oafish summer-bachelor downstairs out of his gourd. (Double bill: *Some Like It Hot*) (*) @Paramount, 7pm.

We Will Rock You: The Queen Sing-Along Sing your heart out and you will be the champion. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

SPACES

On the Waterfront (1954) *D: Elia Kazan; with Marlon Brando, Karl Malden, Lee J. Cobb, Rod Steiger, Eva Marie Saint. (NR, 108 min.)* **American Screen Legends.** This one’s still a contender in anyone’s book. @The Glenn at the Backyard, 9pm; free.

The Wedding Singer *D: Frank Coraci; with Adam Sandler, Drew Barrymore, Steve Buscemi, Allen Covert. (PG-13, 96 min.)* Sandler is at the top of his comic game here. Music by Odyssey at 7:30pm. Refreshments available. Bring your own lawn chair. For more info see www.joscoffee.com. (*) @Jo’s Hot Coffee, 8:30pm; free.

FRIDAY 28

Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981) *D: Steven Spielberg; with Harrison Ford, Karen Allen, Denholm Elliott, Wolf Kahler, Paul Freeman. (PG, 115 min.)* Indiana Jones, a dashing Saturday matinee idol for the modern age, is one of Spielberg and Ford’s best creations. The midnight screenings today and tomorrow are double-billed with the Alamo’s 9:45pm screenings of *Raiders of the Lost Ark: The Adaptation*. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid.

Raiders of the Lost Ark: The Adaptation (2003) See p.86.

Some Like It Hot (1959) @Paramount, 7:15pm; \$7 adults (\$6 before 6pm), \$5 children/students/seniors; \$45 Flix-Tix book (10 admissions). (See Thu., 07/27)

The Last Unicorn (1982) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 1pm; free. (See Thu., 07/27)

The Seven Year Itch (1955) @Paramount, 9:40pm; \$7 adults , \$5 children/students/seniors; \$45 Flix-Tix book (10 admissions). (See Thu., 07/27)

Videoke Act out scenes from various movies and win prizes. See www.originalalamo.com for details. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

SPACES

The Horseman on the Roof (1995) *D: Jean-Paul Rappeneau; with Olivier Martinez, Juliette Binoche. (R, 118 min.)* **Alliance Française of Austin.** The film captures the heroic exploits of an Italian resistance soldier who falls in love with a French noblewoman during the French cholera plague of the early 19th century. (More info available at www.afaustin.org. Doors open for snacks and conversation 45 minutes before the screening.) (*) @St. David’s Health Resource Center Theater, 7:45pm.

The Professional (1994) *D: Luc Besson; with Jean Reno, Gary Oldman, Natalie Portman, Danny Aiello. (R, 110 min.)* Enigmatic hitman becomes unlikely caretaker of and mentor to the girl next door. (*) @Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1608 Barton Springs Rd.), 8pm; free.

SATURDAY 29

Annie Hall (1977) *D: Woody Allen; with Allen, Diane Keaton, Tony Roberts, Carol Kane, Shelley Duvall, Colleen Dewhurst, Christopher Walken. (PG, 94 min.)* **Summer Film Classics.** *Annie Hall* is the one Woody Allen film that is better than all the rest. Its comedy, performances, and insights are all dead-on perfect. And how about that young Christopher Walken in his spookier-than-thou turn as the demented kid brother? (Double bill: *Hannah and Her Sisters*) @Paramount, 7pm.

Funny Girl (1968) *D: William Wyler; with Barbra Streisand, Omar Sharif. (G, 155 min.)* **Summer Film Classics.** In her debut film performance, Barbra Streisand portrays Fanny Brice, a vaudeville star whose life and loves are given the Hollywood treatment. Songs include “People Who Need People,” “Don’t Rain on My Parade,” and “Second-Hand Rose.” (*) @Paramount, 3:15pm.

Offscreen

Blanks on a Blank Contest The question is: Who can concoct the best short analog to the imminent *Snakes on a Plane* blockbuster? The answer could be you, nascent filmmaker, netting you minor fortune and a certain twisted sort of fame. Once you register (online), you’ll be assigned an animal/vehicle combo with which to conjure 2-5 minutes of psychotronic goodness. Brought to you, naturally, by the Alamo Drafthouse. Registration deadline: *Thu., Aug. 3. Alamo Drafthouse South, 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320. www.blanksonablank.com.*

Club de Ville Fall Film Series Submit your shorts (no longer than 15 minutes), in DVD or VHS formats, any genre, no submission fee. Selected films will show at Club de Ville, with cash prizes for audience favorites. Include a phone number, e-mail, a brief bio, and a statement asserting ownership of your film. **Do it now.** Deliver to: *Club de Ville, 900 Red River, 457-0900. www.myspace.com/clubdeville.*

Flicker Film Festival: Call for Submissions Filmmakers of all ages, experience, and expertise are welcome to send in their latest projects for the 27th Flicker Film Festival. There’s no submission fee, and entries can be screened in the following formats: DVD, VHS, 16mm prints, 35mm prints, or mini DV transfers. All films must originate on Super 8, 8mm, 16mm, or 35mm and be shorter than 15 minutes. See their Web site for details. Deadline: *Aug. 9. www.flickeraustin.com.*

Supersuckers Video Contest The Supersuckers, that fine, fine band, entreat you to create a video based on their song, “Paid.” They’re offering \$100 (and likely much media

Hannah and Her Sisters (1986) See p.84.

Nobesity (2006) See p.86.

Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981) See p.84.

Raiders of the Lost Ark: The Adaptation (2003) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45pm. (See Fri., 07/28) See p.86

The Apple Dumpling Gang (1975) *D: Norman Tokar; with Tim Conway, Don Knotts, Susan Clark, Bill Bixby. (G, 100 min.)* **Saturday Morning Kids Club.** This comic Disney Western is at its best when Knotts and Conway are onscreen as the bumbling bandits who try to steal from a bunch of orphans. Few people remember anything about this movie apart from the hilarity generated by this scene-stealing duo. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 12pm; free.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) *D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O’Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.)* Austin Rocky Horror fans have been dressing up and doing the “Time Warp” thing live for 28 years straight. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

SPACES

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (2005) *D: Mike Newell; with Daniel Radcliffe. (PG-13, 157 min.)* **Splash Party Movie Night.** This fourth *Potter* film emphasizes the emotional over the gothic. For more info, call 472-8546. (*) @Deep Eddy Pool, 8:30pm; pool entrance fee.

SUNDAY 30

Annie Hall (1977) @Paramount, 2pm; \$7 adults (\$6 before 6pm), \$5 children/students/seniors; \$45 Flix-Tix book (10 admissions). (See Sat., 07/29)

Fire in the Water (1977) *D: Peter Whitehead; with Nathalie Delon, David Hockney, John Lennon, Allen Ginsberg. (NR, 90 min.)* **The Word and the Image: The Pop Films of Peter Whitehead.** An alchemical allegory in which a filmmaker reflects on his career in the highlands of Scotland while his girlfriend (Delon) roams the countryside alone. Includes appearances by David Hockney and John Lennon and music by the Animals, the Rolling Stones, the Who, and Jimi Hendrix. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 4:30pm.

Funny Girl (1968) @Paramount, 7pm; \$7 adults (\$6 before 6pm), \$5 children/students/seniors; \$45 Flix-Tix book (10 admissions). (See Sat., 07/29)

exposure) to the winning director. See their Web site for details. Deadline: *Sept. 17. www.supersuckers.com.*

The Alamo’s Blockbuster Video Quiz Show The good people of the Original Alamo Drafthouse are, like other thinking folk, fed up with the uninspired trivia questions typically run onscreen before movies. Which is why they’ll be spiking the summertime preshows at their Village and South Lamar venues with quizzes based on the capers they’ve cut in concert with each film. *Alamo Drafthouse South, 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320. www.originalalamo.com.*

The Austin Movie Show: Film Tournament 3.0 Submit your short films to the Austin Movie Show, for possible screening on local access TV at 6-8pm on Sunday nights, with a live screening to follow. Drama, comedy, docs – you name it. For submission details, check their Web site. www.austinnmovieshow.com.

The OUTER Gay and Lesbian SciFi / Fantasy Film Festival: Call for Entries Telecommunication Films across the Universe seeks feature-length films, short films, videos, documentaries, mock-u-mentaries, animations, and/or trailers about gay, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered in the genre of science fiction, fantasy, or horror. DVD and VHS formats accepted. See their Web site for details. Deadline: *Sept. 1. Submit to: OUTer Film Fest, PO Box 40725, Austin, Texas, 78704. 656-2677. www.outerfilmfest.com.*

Who Killed the Electric Car? In connection with this new doc at the Arbor, the Austin Area Electric Automobile Association will be displaying electric vehicles. *Fri., July 28, 5-10pm.* They’ll be back the next day, too, with Electric Vehicles of Austin and Austin Electric Energy answering questions about the program. *Sat., July 29. Arbor Cinema @ Great Hills, 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742. gm661@regalcinemas.com.*

Hannah and Her Sisters (1986) See p.84.

Nobesity (2006) See p.84.

The Hindi Superman (1987) *D: B. Gupta; with Puneet Issar, Shakti Kapoor. (NR)* **Foleyvision.** The process of Foleyvision takes this Indian rip off of the 1978 American *Superman* and strips out all the Hindi dialogue and substitutes music and sound effects performed right in the theatre. This Superman breakdances too. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45.

MONDAY 31

Destroy All Monsters (1968) *D: Ishiro Honda; with Jun Tazaki, Yukiko Kobayashi, Akira Kubo. (G, 88 min.)* **Summer Movie Camp.** Japanese monsters – including Godzilla, Rodan, and Mothra – run amok. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 1pm; free.

Metal Storm: The Scandinavian Metal Wars (2005) *D: Kier-La Janisse. Music Monday.* The Scandinavian black metal scene is contextualized in this in-house documentary. Appearing live will be Azzeroth, the Black Metal Comedian. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm; \$2, \$1 students/seniors/AFS.

The Fall (1969) *D: Peter Whitehead; with Angelo Mannsraev, Alberta Tiburzi. (NR, 110 min.)* **The Word and the Image: The Pop Films of Peter Whitehead.** Combining personal and political filmmaking, *The Fall* was shot in and around New York between 1967 and 1968. The film, which Whitehead considers to be his best, eyes America with the same psychedelic kaleidoscope, LSD-era aesthetic, that Whitehead earlier aimed at swinging England in *Tonite Let’s All Make Love in London*. Among the events witnessed here are the assassination of Martin Luther King and the Columbia University riots. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7:30pm.

SPACES

Anime Movie Monday Every Monday night. For more info, see www.ventanadeloul.org. @Ventana del Soul (1834 E. Oltorf), 7:30pm.

Final Destination 3 (2006) *D: James Wong; with Mary Elizabeth Winstead. (R, 115 min.)* **Waterloo Video.** This shocker takes exuberant, gleeful delight in the unspeakably gory dispatch of assorted teenagers. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm; free.

The Dark Side (2006) *D: Michael Kirk. (NR, 90 min.)* This *Frontline* documentary tells the story of Dick Cheney’s role as the chief architect of the war on terror and his battle with Director of Central Intelligence George Tenet for control of the “dark side.” (*) @Cafe Mundi, 8:30pm; free.

The Professional (1994) @Java Lounge at Austin Java, 8pm; free. (See Fri., 07/28)

IMAX Theatre

For ticket prices, call 936-IMAX or 936-TSHM or see www.thestoryoftexas.com. See showtimes for dates and times

Deep Sea 3D (2006) *D: Howard Hall; narrated by Johnny Depp, Kate Winslet. (G, 40 min.)* *Deep Sea 3D* emphasizes the harmonious balance of the underwater ecosystem with playful narration by *Titanic* Kate Winslet and Caribbean pirate Johnny Depp. (*)

Ride Around the World: A Cowboy Adventure (2006) *D: Harry Lynch. (NR, 40 min.)* The history of horse and cowboy culture in the West is traced back 1,500 years in this big-screen documentary. Beginning in the Moroccan desert and spreading to Spain, from which it traveled the ocean with the conquistadors to Mexico, the vaqueros and their cowboy way of life migrated south to Argentina and Chile and north to Texas and up to British Columbia. Made by local filmmakers, the film also features music by Brian Satterwhite.

Roving Mars (2006) *D: George Butler; narrated by George Butler. (G, 40 min.)* Finally, an IMAX space film whose sole objective isn’t to overwhelm us with its vastness. This film uses animation to re-create the experience of the Mars rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, on the faraway planet. Also effective is the score by Philip Glass.

Texas: The Big Picture (2003) *D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.)* Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as Texas is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips.

TUESDAY 01

Ball of Fire (1941) See p.86.

Buffy Sing-Along A warm-up episode of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* will screen before the show's musical episode, "Once More With Feeling." Also on the bill: lighters, bubbles, plastic fangs, dancing bunnies, and more interactivity than ever. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (2005) D: Adam Shankman; with Steve Martin, Bonnie Hunt. (PG, 100 min.) **Free Family Film Festival.** An unasked-for sequel to a remake. @Westgate, 10am; free.

Curious George (2006) D: Matthew O'Callaghan; with the voices of Will Ferrell, Drew Barrymore, David Cross. (G, 86 min.) **Free Family Film Festival.** The lovable monkey's big-screen debut. (*) @Westgate, 10am; free.

Destroy All Monsters (1968) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 1pm; free. (See Mon., 07/31)

Favela Rising (2005) See p.86.

His Girl Friday (1940) D: Howard Hawks; with Cary Grant, Rosalind Russell, Ralph Bellamy. (NR, 92 min.) **Summer Film Classics.** Grant and Russell are brilliant in this rapid-fire newspaper comedy update of *The Front Page*, in which a newspaper editor tries to win back his star reporter (who is also his ex-wife). Bellamy plays his patented odd-man-out. (Double bill: *Ball of Fire*) (*) @Paramount, 7pm; \$7 adults, \$5 children/students/seniors; \$45 Flix-Tix book (10 admissions).

Hoodwinked (2006) D: Cory Edwards, Todd Edwards and Tony Leech; with the voices of Anne Hathaway, Glenn Close. (PG, 80 min.) **Free Family Film Festival.** Sassy animated Little Red Riding Hood tale. (*) @Lakeline, 10am; free.

Ice Age (2002) D: Chris Wedge; with the voices of Ray Romano, John Leguizamo, Denis Leary. (PG, 81 min.) **Summer Movie Clubhouse.** Prehistoric buddy cartoon. (*) @Round Rock, 9:30am; \$1.

Jonah: A Veggie Tales Movie (2002) D: Phil Vischer and Mike Nawrocki; with the voices of Lisa Vischer, Kristin Blegen, Mike Nawrocki, Phil Vischer. (G, 83 min.) **Free Family Film Festival.** Animated Old Testament. (*) @Lakeline, 10am; free.

SPACES

Death Becomes Her (1992) D: Robert Zemeckis; with Meryl Streep, Bruce Willis, Goldie Hawn, Isabella Rossellini, Sydney Pollack. (PG-13, 103 min.) **Waterloo Video.** The film's wicked take on modern vanity is often hysterically on-target, although the plot never really takes off, as outrageous as it is and despite some pretty amazing special effects. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm; free.

Documentaries and Short Films

Screenings on the back patio every Tuesday. @Java Lounge at Austin Java, 8pm; free.

WEDNESDAY 02

Ball of Fire (1941) See p.86.

Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (2005) @Westgate, 10am; free. (See Tue., 08/01)

Curious George (2006) @Westgate, 10am; free. (See Tue., 08/01)

Destroy All Monsters (1968) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 1pm; free. (See Mon., 07/31)

Favela Rising (2005) See p.86.

Forbidden Animation D: Various. (NR) If you're needing a jolt to shake you out of those "nothing ever changes" blues, then this program of politically incorrect cartoons from previous decades ought to do the trick. Blacks, Japanese, and women took a beating in terms of stereotyping and name-calling during the golden age of cartoons, and this program promises to "put a dent in our jaded sensibilities." (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:30pm.

His Girl Friday (1940) @Paramount, 9:15pm.

Hoodwinked (2006) @Lakeline, 10am; free. (See Tue., 08/01)

Ice Age (2002) @Round Rock, 9:30am; \$1. (See Tue., 08/01)

Jonah: A Veggie Tales Movie (2002) @Lakeline, 10am; free. (See Tue., 08/01)

T.N.T. Jackson (1975) D: Cirio H. Santiago; with Jeannie Bell, Stan Shaw, Pat Anderson, Ken Metcalfe. (R, 72 min.) **Weird Wednesday.** American

Seventies kung-fu picture stars Bell as a karate expert who goes to Hong Kong to search for her brother's killer. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

SPACES

Love Happy and Cocoanuts Marx Brothers Film Series. Comedy classics. A pre-movie documentary about the Marx brothers will screen, and Josh Frank and local theatre company will introduce the films. Closing night party. @San Antonio St. Cafe at Texas Hillel, 7pm; free.

THURSDAY 03

A Scanner Darkly Extravaganza (2006) See p.84.

Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (2005) @Westgate, 10am; free. (See Tue., 08/01)

Curious George (2006) @Westgate, 10am; free. (See Tue., 08/01)

Destroy All Monsters (1968) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 1pm; free. (See Mon., 07/31)

Favela Rising (2005) See p.86.

Forbidden Animation @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:30pm. (See Wed., 08/02)

Guardian of Hell (1980) D: Bruno Mattei; with Franca Stoppa, Carlo De Mejo. (R, 88 min.) **Terror Thursday.** The devil made them do it. Nuns in a convent lust after the abbot. Cloister carnage ensues. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

Hoodwinked (2006) @Lakeline, 10am; free. (See Tue., 08/01)

Ice Age (2002) @Round Rock, 9:30am; \$1. (See Tue., 08/01)

Jonah: A Veggie Tales Movie (2002) @Lakeline, 10am; free. (See Tue., 08/01)

One, Two, Three (1961) D: Billy Wilder; with Pamela Tiffin, Horst Buchholz, Arlene Francis, James Cagney. (NR, 108 min.) **Summer Film Classics.** The Cold War and the Berlin Wall provided material for Wilder's comedic sensibilities. In his last screen performance until *Ragtime*, Cagney stars in this rapid-fire comedy about a Coca-Cola executive in Germany who looks after the boss' teenage American daughter who elopes with an East German radical. (Double bill: *The Apartment*) (*) @Paramount, 7pm.

Slam Planet (2006) D: Kyle Fuller and Mike Henry. **National Poetry Slam.** In this documentary, rival poets from Austin and New York City prepare for the 2004 National Poetry Slam in St. Louis, Mo. The film was the runner-up for the Lone Star States Audience Award at the 2006 SXSW For more info on the locally hosted National Poetry Slam see www.nps2006.com. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 10:15pm.

The Apartment (1960) See p.86.

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Too \$hort DESSAU HALL, FRIDAY 28

When Too \$hort reminds us that “for the last 300 months, I made 16 albums with me on the front,” the East Oakland don’s influence cannot be denied. Whether his past classics are being sampled by Shwnna or completely remade by Bun B, there’s no denying his unprecedented staying power continues to define game-related lyricism. Latest Lil Jon-produced single “Blow the Whistle” pimps right up next to his guest verse on Kelis’ “Bossy” as further proof that \$hort was “born to mack.” Lil’ O of the Screwed Up Click, Those Nuf-Sed Boyz, and Tha Foundation open.

— Robert Gabriel

Before Dawn, Cry Blood Apache

ELYSIUM, FRIDAY 28

Local quartet Cry Blood Apache’s guerilla approach to playing shows (alleyways, massage parlors, porn-store parking lots) reflects their equally abrasive and hypnotic sound. An infectious, poppier mix of Suicide and early Ministry, CBA’s beat-heavy electro-jerk (courtesy of bass, guitar, drum machine, and vocal delay) can be heard on last year’s *Performing Diversion Acrobatics*, but it’s best experienced live and pumped loud. Local electro trio Before Dawn rises last; Houston IDmers PLID and Austin’s Hipnautica open.

— Audra Schroeder



K-Tel Hit Machine LA ZONA ROSA, FRIDAY 28

One night only! The timeless story, told in song! “Christine Sixteen,” “American Girl,” “Everybody Wants You,” “Don’t Bring Me Down,” “Hot Legs,” “Fox on the Run,” “Keep It Coming Love,” “One Way or Another,” “Right Down the Line.” “We’ve Only Just Begun,” “You’re All I Got Tonight,” “If You Leave Me Now,” “Heartache Tonight,” “Train in Vain,” “Miss You,” “Seven Year Ache.” Yours for the low, low limited-time price of \$8! Operators are standing by!

— Christopher Gray

Soundcheck BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

LOXSLEY

Parish, Friday 28

Synth quint rock in quadrophonic sound, along with locals Black Before Red.

MISS LAVELLE WHITE

East 11th St., Friday 28

The Austin blues legend headlines as part of East End Fourth Friday.

TOM WAITS HOOT NIGHT

Trophy’s, Saturday 29

Locals Box Spring Hogs, Possessed by Paul James, Mr. Lewis & the Funeral Five, Grub Dog, and more get behind the mule.

HOBBLE, PUDDING

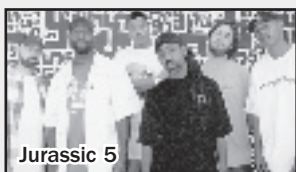
Room 710, Saturday 29

Loud, lewd, and crude with Free Range Bastards and Split Hoof.

BACK ROOM’S FAREWELL SHOW

Back Room, Saturday 29

See “TCB” for full lineup.



LOS HISPANOS UK, SCARY MONDELOS

Headhunters, Sunday 30

A night of aural terrorism with Destroyed for Comfort, Hit by a Car, Pretty Pretty, and Chinga Bueno.

JURASSIC 5

Stubb’s, Tuesday 1

Old-school MC trade-off from the L.A. fivepiece. NYC’s X-Clan opens.

TEENAGE SYMPHONY, THE SHELLS, ECONOMY

Chain Drive, Wednesday 2

All-local sugar-pop fest.

BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Whisky Bar, Thursday 3

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live music VENUES ▶ p.96

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Peaches

EMO’S, SATURDAY 29

Provocatress Peaches is not feeling well.

“Please, I hate when it’s ‘I talked to a sick Peaches,’ or whatever,” she weakly insists. But she makes no bones about qualifying her performance in this interview: “I’m fucking sick as a dog.”

Peaches (real name Merrill Nisker), the 39-year-old Canadian who makes Berlin her home, is currently on tour in support of her third electro-punk album, *Impeach My Bush* (XL Recordings), an overtly political album that is straightforward in its rhetoric regarding sexual politics but could easily be a broader political allegory as well. “Two Guys (for Every Girl)” could read as an argument for protecting the right to choose, as well as watching two dudes get it on. “Fuck or Kill” could be about exercising the right of free speech and booty. What you say, P?

“I’d say it’s as political as any of my other albums. It’s questioning power roles and authority, just like I always have,” she huffs.

Moving on. Some might wonder what business a Canadian girl who lives in Berlin has singing about American politics, but Peaches’ reasons are more personal than one might expect.

“My sister lives in New York and has multiple sclerosis,” she explains. “[On July 20], Bush vetoed any more funding for stem cell research, and speculation has shown that stem cells could be the best way to find a cure for that and also Parkinson’s. Also, I figure if you have a public voice at all, you should use it.”



Having a public voice also comes with responsibility, even when the old immune system is being put to the test. The media likes to tout Peaches as an artist who blurs the lines of gender performance, so hopefully her battle cry “I’d rather fuck who I want, than kill who I’m told to” sounds better live than she does on the phone.

— Melanie Haupt

Peaches performs with her band the Herms; Deadboy & the Elephantmen and the Ugly Beats open.

Roky Erickson & the Explosives

ANTONE’S, SATURDAY 29

Roky Erickson hardly needs introduction, but as an architect of Texas psychedelia and garage rock, he is without peer. His well-publicized battle with mental and social demons is taking a backseat to his re-emergence as a godfather of the Lone Star State’s estimable musical heritage. Two weeks after his 59th birthday, he’s still got it. Opening is Guy Forsyth, whose *Love Songs: For and Against* was as popular on the radio as it was critically. As Antone’s 31st anniversary winds down, it ups the ante.

— Margaret Moser



Skid Row, Quiet Riot

CARLOS’N CHARLIE’S, SATURDAY 29

The lifers will all be at the Back Room, so this “Rock the Beach” hair-fest is for those with mothballed Whitesnake jean jackets like that girl in *Old School*. Sure, the draw is Skid Row’s lighter-wavers “18 and Life” and “I Remember You,” but “Youth Gone Wild” and anything from 1991’s underrated *Slave to the Grind* are way more metal than your James Blunt-accustomed ears are used to. Quiet Riot, meanwhile, are living proof that whatever doesn’t kill you sounds great on *Behind the Music*.

— Christopher Gray

Ginn Sisters CD Release

CACTUS CAFE, TUESDAY 1

The sweet promise the Ginn Sisters made with their 2004 debut is sealed with a kiss on their second CD, *Blood Oranges* (Sweetbird Records). Sisters Tiffani and Brit Ginn, hailing from Schulenburg, just southwest of here, wield that triple threat of full-bodied sibling harmonies, beautifully crafted songwriting, and outstanding musicianship. They’re a touch country, a touch bluegrass, a touch folk, 100% Texan, and still flying well enough below the radar to make them a hot show for this or any other summer night. Southpaw Jones opens.

— Margaret Moser



Gris Gris, Faceless Werewolves

EMO’S, TUESDAY 1

A mere three months after their last packed Emo’s appearance, Gris Gris brings the ghostly sounds of their sophomore album, *For the Season* (Birdman), back to Austin. Don’t expect the Oakland quartet to gently guide you through a haze of reverb; they’re more likely to haphazardly transport you to psych-folk chambers filled with feedback, chants, and wails. The real voodoo comes from the orchestral drones of organs and tom-toms with a little help from the clarinet. Mojo rising. Locals the Faceless Werewolves, Transgressors, and Hao Chiang Chiang open.

— Jenn Nuzzo

Rhett Butler CACTUS CAFE, WEDNESDAY 2

It’s one of those things that you have to see to believe, but Rhett Butler really does take the guitar to places it’s never been. Sometimes he even manages it with two guitars, which explains opening for Eric Johnson and Joe Satriani on a regular basis. The thirtysomething Dallas native is set to release his latest opus, *In This World*, which features the Dallas Symphony and avant-garde banjo stylings of Tony Trischka, a move he claims brings him into more melodic territory.

— Jim Caligiuri

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AND THE MEMPHIS RHYTHM BAND



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Jonny Lang
Live



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STUBB'S

FRI SEP 29



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FRI OCT 6



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POPAGANDA TOUR 2006

NEW SPECIAL MESSAGES:
ROCK KILLS KID
REAL WOMEN, AND CHILDREN

TIX ON SALE WED 8/2 @ 10AM THRU
STUBBS.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

SAT OCT 14



JAMIE CULLUM
in concert
with special guest
JOSH RITTER

TIX ON SALE FRI 7/28 @ 10AM THRU
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TICKETS

IN THE CLUB

SAT JUL 29

**GROOVINGROUND
AND MOVING MATTER**

**GOSPEL BRUNCH SUN JULY 30
WITH THE GOSPEL STARS**

TUE AUG 1 — DOORS 10PM



TRAINWRECK
FEATURING KYLE GASS OF TENACIOUS D
WITH **KITTY KITTY BANG BANG**
SAT AUG 5

**THE WHIGS
WITH ASTER**
SUN AUG 6

**KUNEK
THE LENNINGS**
TIX ON SALE NOW
MON AUG 7

**REBIRTH
BRASS
BAND**
TUE AUG 8

DIRTY ON PURPOSE
WITH **LAS DAMAS** AND **LOXSLY**
SAT AUG 12

**INSIGHT PRESENTS:
NOONER
WITH THE ADDICTONS
2 DOWN
AND THE PERSONALS**
THU AUG 24

BIRD MONSTER
WITH **DIVISION DAY**
FRI AUG 25

**LUNA HALO
WITH THE EELMS**

**OFFICIAL
ACL AFTERSHOWS**

FRI SEP 15 — DOORS 11:30PM
BENEVENTO-RUSSO DUO
WITH **APOLLO SUNSHINE**

SAT SEP 16 — DOORS 11:30PM
NEW MONSOON

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TYRONE VAUGHAN • PLANE OF EXISTENCE
FRIDAY JULY 28TH

Roky's BIRTHDAY PARTY
Roky Erickson
WITH THE EXPLOSIVES
KACY CROWLEY • TOMMY X HANCOCK
& THE TEXCENTRICS
LIVE RECORDING! **GUY FORSYTH**
SATURDAY JULY 29TH

ERIC TESSMER
CARSON ALEXANDER • THE FRETS
SUNDAY JULY 30TH

ASLEEP at the WHEEL
EARLY SHOW
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MONDAY JULY 31ST

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TUESDAY AUG 1ST
Blue Tuesday WITH **DEREK OBRIEN**
FEATURING **MALFORD MILLIGAN**
and special guest **WC CLARK**

SATURDAY AUGUST 5TH
DUNCAN SHEIK
& **VIENNA TENG**
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SPECIAL LATE SET BY **GARY CLARK JR.**

MONDAY AUGUST 11TH
ROCK BU2
wideawake
ZAC BROWN BAND
FRIDAY AUGUST 11TH
MONTE MONTGOMERY
BIRTHDAY JAM!

SATURDAY AUGUST 12TH
ANAGEN
GREEN RIVER ORDINANCE
THE HERO FACTOR • ZIPPER

MONDAY AUGUST 14TH
CORINNE BAILEY RAE
GRAN BEL FISHER & KEVIN DEVINE
ON SALE NOW! FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

8/13: **MOJOE FAMILY** MIX TAPE RELEASE
8/18: **DUCK SOUP** EARLY DANCE SET
8/20: **DIAMOND D** • M1 of **DEAD PREZ**
NOTTZ • E SWIFT of **ALKAHOLIKS**
VEHICULAR

THU AUG 24
TIM REYNOLDS
DAVE MATTHEWS COLLABORATOR

8/25: SPECIAL EVENING FEATURING THE MUSIC OF
ELECTRIC LIGHT ORCHESTRA
K-TEL & **THE HIT MACHINE**
with **TOSCA STRINGS** • **JOHNNY GUNDE** • **DAVIN MURPHY**

SEP 16
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TONIGHT

the church

uninvited, like the clouds
2006 US Tour
with Special Guest
Rob Dickinson from the Catherine Wheel

JUL 27 DOORS 8PM SHOW 9PM

FRIDAY

SMOKIN SINGLES NIGHT

at LA ZONA ROSA



PERFORMING SUPERHOT HITS OF THE 1970s AND 1980s

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GET A FREE MEMBERSHIP TO AUSTIN CHRONICLE'S POPULAR DATING SITE, LOVER'S LANE

JUL 28 DOORS 8PM SHOW 9PM ***AGES 18+***

OCT 22 **MICHAEL SCHENKER GROUP**

PLEASE DO NOT DISTURB OCCUP



eels

AUG 09 DOORS 8PM SHOW 9PM

DAKLB



ROBIN TROWER

SEPT 28 DOORS 8PM SHOW 9PM

An Evening With



KARL DENSON TRIO

SEPT 30 DOORS 8PM SHOW 9PM

JACLfest AFTER SHOWS



BEN KWELLER

LIVE IN LONDON with special guests
SAM ROBERTS and
JACK ROBERTS

SEPT 14 DOORS 8PM SHOW 9PM

Guster and GOMEZ



SEPT 15 DOORS 8PM SHOW 10PM

G. Love & Special Sauce



SEPT 16 DOORS 10PM SHOW 11PM

THE GLENN AT THE BACKYARD

HWY 71 WEST @ 620 • AUSTIN, TX

HOOTIE AND THE BLOWFISH

HOMEGROWN TOUR



SUNDAY SUNDAY


WITH SPECIAL GUEST THE DJANGO WALKER BAND

THE HOOTIE AND THE BLOWFISH FOUNDATION ASK THOSE ATTENDING THE CONCERT TO BRING SCHOOL SUPPLIES IN SUPPORT OF AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Hard Rock **HOOTIE AND THE BLOWFISH FOUNDATION**

JUL 30 DOORS 6:30PM SHOW 7:30PM

AUG 4 **THE RADIATORS** POSTPONED UNTIL 2007



ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO

AUG 12 DOORS 6PM SHOW 7PM

ALAMO DRAHTHOUSE CINEMA AT THE GLENN

TONIGHT

TUE JULY 27
ON THE WATERFRONT
DOORS 7:00PM FILM 9:00PM


FOR MORE INFO VISIT:
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THE BACKYARD

LIVE OAK AMPHITHEATRE

HWY 71 WEST @ 620 • AUSTIN, TX

Rocky Tour '06




with Special Guest
Wailers AND PEPPER

101X

SEPT 3 DOORS 5PM SHOW 6PM

LIVE IN CONCERT



Chris Isaak

with special guest
tristan prettyman

101X

SEPT 8 DOORS 6:30PM SHOW 7:30PM

BONNIE RAITT

SOULS ALIKE TOUR 2006
WITH SPECIAL GUEST
KEB' MO'



101X

OCT 5 DOORS 7PM SHOW 8PM



Linda Ronstadt

live in concert

OCT 19 DOORS 6:30PM SHOW 7:30PM

PET SHOP BOYS

FUNDAMENTAL



OCT 21 DOORS 6:30PM SHOW 7:30PM

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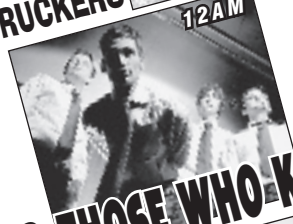


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 FLANIGIN'S
 B-3 TRIO**

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**EPHRAIM OWENS
 EXPERIENCE**

THUR.
 JULY 27

**H. H. THE
 MOTHER
 TRUCKERS**



12AM

FOR THOSE WHO KNOW



11PM

**AUX
 GULF OF MEXICO**

10PM

FRIDAY JULY 28

H. H. THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS



**LIL
 CAP'N
 TRAVIS**

**PAUL
 MINOR
 MARIO
 MATTEOLI**



CD
 RELEASE
 PARTY

SATURDAY JULY 29

MATINEE 3-7PM

**REDD
 VOLKAERT
 TONI
 PRICE**



10PM



12AM

LEROI BROTHERS

HEYBALE
 ORCHESTRA

SUN. JULY 30
 WITH REDD VOLKAERT
 AND EARL POOLE BALL

CONTINENTAL

HAPPY HOUR 6:30 PARIS '49

**DALE WATSON
 AND HIS LONE STARS**

TUES. AUG 1
 HAPPY HOUR

TONI PRICE



11PM

**+ DOAK SHORT
 TYRANT OF TX FUNK
 BARFIELD**

WED.
 AUG 2

HAPPY
 HOUR

GARY

CLARK JR.

**JAMES
 Mc MURTRY**



**MIKE
 ROSENTHAL**

THURSDAY AUG 3

H. H. RYAN BINGHAM



**ELIZABETH
 McQUEEN
 AND THE
 FIREBRANDS**



12AM

THE CONRADS

10PM

H. H. THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS

FRIDAY AUG 4

THE WEARY BOYS

12AM

**SCOTT
 BIRAM**



10PM

CD
 RELEASE
 PARTY

GUITAR SHORTY

SATURDAY AUG 5

REDD VOLKAERT

DALE WATSON

AND HIS LONE STARS

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CHARLES THIBODEAUX

FRIDAY, JULY 28 • 10PM
REDD VOLKAERT \$5 Cover

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2 • 6PM
COWBOY JOHNSON

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3 • 7PM
LIZ MORPHIS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4 • 10PM
LARRY LANGE'S LONELY KNIGHTS

LIVE MUSIC SCHEDULE

B.D. Riley's
Irish Pub

6th street for grown ups!

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KIM & HER BLUES BOYS

FRIDAY July 28 - 10:30 **alter boyz**

SATURDAY July 29 - 10:30
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LIVE MUSIC & DJs NIGHTLY

« Thursday »
DJ Tats ----- 10:00

« Friday »
DJ Holland ----- 6:00-10:00
DJ's Mel & David Miranda- 10:00

« Saturday »
DJ's Krupt & Inverse ----- 10:00

« Sunday »
ALL NIGHT HAPPY HOUR

« Monday »
Open Mic night ----- 8:00-10:00
Calvin Russell, Brad ----- 10:00
Brobisky & Friends
ALL NIGHT HAPPY HOUR

« Tuesday »
Squincy Jones, Bobby ----- 10:00
Hinojosa, DJ Daya
Soundonor ----- 11:15
The Word Association ----- 12:00
Fambly ----- 12:50

« Wednesday »
The Return of Austin's ---- 10:00
Original "Hip Hop Hump Day"
w/ DJ Mike Swing & Tee Double
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East End Fourth Fridays! is produced by Harold McMillan and DiverseArts, in association with East End Merchants Alliance, Austin Revitalization Authority, Austin Independent Business Alliance, Esperanza Development, and Rootz-n-Routes Collective.2006.
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THE TROUBLESOME TRIO 6-9PM

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JULY 28

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SATURDAY
JULY 29

POOR YORICK
10PM

8-10PM

LUCASCOOKUS

FRIDAY
JULY 28

8-10PM

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SATURDAY
JULY 29

6PM

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TUESDAY
JULY 25

7PM

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Wednesday
Open Mic w/ Jimmy Lee Jones
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Thursday, July 27
THE CARI HUDSON BAND
Ladies Night
Friday, July 28
THE BURNET JONES BAND
Saturday, July 29
JIMMY "LEE" JONES

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SUNDAY AUGUST 6TH

JULY		Happy Hour 6-8 *	Headliners 9:30
	thur 27	Gaila Kenneally	LC Rocks
	fri 28	Shawn & Phil	LC Rocks
	sat 29		Les & the Funk Mob
	sun 30		Les & the Funk Mob
	mon 31	Kevin Ahart	Jukebox Heroes feat. Robert Wagner
	tue 1	Seela & Friends	ROCKSTAR karaoke
	wed 2	Trent & Dave	Spazmatics



208 W. 4th. Warehouse District 512.495.9669

club listings

Thu 27

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle (8:00)
311 CLUB 3 Piece Special, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Jazz Pharaohs (3:30)
ABIA: HILL COUNTRY BAR Southpaw Jones (3:30)
ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR ON SIXTH Ricky Broussard (12:30)
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Myrna & Gris-Gris Blues, Flying Dollar Band
ANTONE'S Sunny Ozuna, Ruben Ramos & the Texas Revolution (8:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Boomer Norman
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier (9:30)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Kim & the Blues Boys
BARCELONA DJ Tats
BEAUTY BAR The Arm
BECK'S ON CONGRESS Kats Meow (8:00)
BEERLAND The Booked, Rat City Riot, Born to Lose
BENNIGAN'S Chad Hebert (7:00)
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BRENTWOOD TAVERN Flyin' A's
BROKEN SPOKE Natural Ear Music Camp Showcase (6:15)
BROWN BAR mr.ripley
CACTUS CAFE Shane Bartell, Plum Tucker (8:30)
CAFE CAFFEINE Danny Santos, Kim Miller, Bill Passalacqua (9:00)
CAFE MUNDI Queen Tears
CARLOS'N CHARLIE'S Joe Gee & the Boomer Busters (8:00)
CEDAR STREET LC Rocks (9:00)

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH P. Kellach Waddle (noon)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Micky & the Motorcars
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike Flanigin B-3 Trio, Mother Truckers (6:30), Gulf of Mexico, AUF, For Those Who Know (10:00)
COOL RIVER CAFE Grooves (9:00)
CYPRESS CREEK CAFE Gerry's Kids
DARWIN'S PUB J.T. Coldfire
THE DETOUR BAR & GRILL Bike Night w/ DavidJohn & the Wildcards
DONA EMILIA'S SOUTH AMERICAN BAR & GRILL Latin at Heart (7:45)
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
EGO'S Two Timin' Three, 2 Hoots & a Holler (9:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Liz Morphis, John Mills w/ Chris Massey (6:00)
EMO'S Lounge: The Gathering w/ DJ Notion & Guests, the Channel, Spain Colored Orange, the Kingdom, the Minders
EVANGELINE CAFE Texola (7:00)
FADO Patrick Fleming Power Duo (10:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA I Kill Cars, the Boxing Lesson, Mary Birthdays, El Olio Wolof
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Pistol Love Family Band
THE FOUNDATION Coy West
GIDDY UPS Open Mic w/ Ted & Roy (8:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Rosy Flores

Acts are chronologically listed. Schedules are subject to change, so please call clubs to confirm lineup. Times are given where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND ARE PRINTED ON A SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS.

HELLO, CLUBS AND BANDS: Club listings deadline is Monday, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Send venue name, address, phone number, acts, and times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax 458-6910; phone 454-5766 x159; or e-mail clubs@austinchronicle.com.

GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Kris Farrow (7:30), Nolitey (9:00)
GRAHAM CENTRAL STATION 8 Ball Down
GREEN MUSE CAFE Open Mic w/ Black Molly (8:00)
GRUENE HALL Roger Wallace (7:30)
HANOVER'S Karaoke
HEADHUNTERS Electric Crush, the "N" Crowd, Darlin Maudie, Catalyst
HI-LO Underground Transmission w/ DJ Manny
HILL'S CAFE David Lee Kaiser
HOLE IN THE WALL Shorty Long, Stones We Throw, Human Being Lawnmower (8:00)
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Poetry, Music Open Mic (8:00)
JOHNNY FINS DJ Your Way (7:00)
JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)

roadshows

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

JULY

THU 27

Sunny Ozuna, Antone's
Rat City Riot, Beerland
Two Timin' Three, Ego's
Chris Massey, Elephant Room
The Minders, the Kingdom, Spain Colored Orange, Emo's
The Church, Rob Dickinson, La Zona Rosa
Blonde Do Role, CSS, Diplo, the Parish
Red Devil, Room 710
Fluffers Union, Trophy's

FRI 28

Buttercup, Cactus Cafe
Too Short, Lil' O, Those Nuf-Sed Boys, Tha Foundation, Dessau Music Hall
PLID, Elysium
 Inside Late: **The Theater Fire**; Outside: **Blackpool Lights**, the **Working Title**, **Days Away**, **Sliders Fault**, Emo's
Eartha Kitt, Mansion at Judges' Hill
Fortress of Attitude, Nuno's on Sixth

The Offbeats, the Parlor
Strange Attractors, Woody's South

SAT 29

Skid Row, Quiet Riot, Carlos'n Charlie's
A Particularly Vicious Rumor, Ratty Scurvics
Singularity, Listen Listen, Blixa, Carousel Lounge
Beyond Hope, Gravity
Euphonic, Elysium
Peaches, Deadboy & the Elephantmen, Emo's
Long Since Forgotten, the Parlor

SUN 30

Hootie & the Blowfish, the Backyard
Versus the Mirror, Stringer, Emo's

MON 31

Righteous Jams, Iron Age, Here Comes Trouble, Emo's
Cheryl Bliss, Flipnotics
 Coffeespace
Mile High School, Rosematter, Red Eyed Fly

AUGUST

TUE 1

Gris Gris, Emo's
Two Tons of Steel, Gruene Hall
Augustana, Brady Sails, the Parish
Otis Gibbs, Saxon Pub
Outside: Jurassic 5, X Clan;
Inside: Trainwreck w/ Kyle Glass, Stubb's Bar-B-Q

WED 2

Rhett Butler, Cactus Cafe
Teenage Symphony, Chain Drive
Fizzy Dino Pop, the Parlor
Kiss Kiss, Caleb Ingstrom, Room 710

THU 3

Shake Russell, Cactus Cafe
Helltrash, Manufactura, Elysium
Capitalist Casualties, Origin, Harda Kast, Emo's
Fra Pandolph, Notes From the Underground, Room 710

for your benefit

THU 27

Instruments for Peace w/ Million Musicians March Brass Band, **Pfluger Pedestrian Bridge**

FRI 28

Austin Cabaret Benefit w/ Eartha Kitt, Mansion at Judges' Hill
Project Life's Free Angola Capoeira Society w/ Capoeira Angola, **Cafe Mundi**

SAT 29

Michelle Harrison Medical Benefit w/ Big Chris Gates & Gatesville CD Release, Topaz, **Iron Cactus North**

SUN 30

Jeff Tonn Diagnoses Benefit w/ Supercontinent, Bello Ragazzo, Low Line Caller, **Ruta Maya**

THU 03

Austin Daze South Austin Picnic Social w/ LZ Love, Leeann Atherton, Shelley King, Mr. Brown, **Ruta Maya**



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Thursday, July 27

MIKE CLIFFORD DUO 7pm
DOUG MORELAND 10pm

Friday, July 28 • 8pm



**BOBBY
FLORES
BAND**

Saturday, July 29 • 6pm

CAROLINE CASEY,
TWO TIMIN' THREE,
MISS LAUREN MARIE,
LUCAS HUDGINS,
MICHAEL SHANE BORDEN,
AND MORE

Monday, July 31 • 6pm

**AUSTIN
COLLINS**

Tuesday, August 1

**JESSE LEE
MILLER**

Wednesday, August 2

**TOM
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FRIDAY 7/28 NO COVER!
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SAN SABA
RYAN T. BRIGGS 7:30-9PM
EL TULE 6-7PM

SATURDAY 7/29
10PM
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THE CHEMISTRY SET 9PM \$10
JAYSON BALES + THE REVIVAL 8PM
SALIM NOURALLAH 7PM
RUBBER MONSTERS - THE FRETS - JONRIDE 2-5PM

SUNDAY 7/30 8-8PM NO COVER!
THE FLYING A's

TUESDAY 8/1 NO COVER!
9:30PM-10:30PM
RIVAL CITY
8PM-9PM
DJ G AND THE FURIOUS THREE
ETHAN AZZARIAN 6-7:30PM

WEDNESDAY 8/2 8:30-10:30PM NO COVER!
SETH WALKER
HARRY BODINE TRIO 6:00-7:30PM

COMING SOON:
THE HONCHOS 8/4
SIDEHILL GOUGERS 8/5
CIENFUEGOS 8/6 LARRY LANGE 8/8
DOUGLAS GREER 8/11

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Thurs. July 27
Carolyn Wonderland 8pm
11pm **George Devore**
11hr. **Rob Roy Parnell** 6pm

Fri. July 28
Red Spade 11pm
with Malfod Milligan & Tracy Conover
9:30pm **Iz Love** 8pm Christina Bell
11hr. **The Regulars** 6pm No Cover

Sat. July 29
11pm **Carolyn Wonderland** 8pm
Crystal Image A Reunion

Sun. July 30
The Resentments
w/ Stephen Bruton, Scrappy Jud Newcomb, 7pm
Bruce Hughes, Jon Dee Graham & John Chipman
10:30pm Walter Tragert
Jay Thomas 12am

Mon. July 31
8:30pm
Walt Wilkins
MATT THE ELECTRICIAN 7pm
11pm **Dross**
The Dedringers 12:30am

Tues. Aug. 1
12am **Will Sexton**
10pm **Shawn Nelson & The Ramblers**
8pm OTIS GIBBS
11hr. **Beth Black** 6pm No Cover

Wed. Aug. 2
11hr. **Pauline Reese** 6pm
8:30pm
MONTE MONTGOMERY
12am **Sidehill Gougers**
Cord 10:30pm

COMING TO THE SAXON:
8/5 - Stephen Bruton
8/7 - Hayes Carll
8/11 - Jon Dee Graham
8/12 - Hayes Carll

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SUN. 7/30 @ 11 AM NO COVER
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WED. 8/2 @ 10:30PM \$5
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Members of the South Austin Jug Band
THE HUDSONS @ 9PM

UP COMING THURS. 8/3 -
ELANA JAMES & GREEZY WHEELS

FRI. 8/4 @ 10PM
CHARLIE ROBISON
-ACOUSTIC TRIO-
107.1 KCSR
9PM
ROBYN LUDWICK
SAT. 8/5 @ 8PM -
JERRY GARCIA'S BIRTHDAY
FLOUNDER WITHOUT EYES
GREEN MOUNTAIN GRASS
LARRY

FRI. 8/11 (XM RADIO TAPING)
BRANDON RHYDER & JOHNNY GIMBLE
SAT. 8/12 @ 10PM -
COMMANDER CODY & THE LOST PLANET AIRMEN
107.1 KCSR
9PM
CAROLYN WONDERLAND

FRI. 8/18 -
SARA HICKMAN
SAT. 8/19 -
SHIVA'S HEADBAND
SAT. 8/26 -
JIMMY LAFAYE

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FRI 7/28 HONKY
SAT 7/29 JOEL HOFMANN BAND
SUN 7/30 OPEN MIC W/ GLENN ALLEN & KIM MCKENZIE
MON 7/31 JORDAN MINOR & SHAUN LINE
TUE 8/1 JOEL HOFMANN BAND
WED 8/2 JIMMY LYNCH

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8/10 DJANGO WALKER
8/11 TISH HINOJOSA
8/19 LUCKY TOMLIN BAND

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Tamasha Africana - 07/29
SonCacho - 08/04

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calendar > COMMUNITY > ARTS > FILM > MUSIC

club listings << FROM THURSDAY

KENNY DORHAM'S BACKYARD The Word on the Street 2: Laid Back Society's MCs & DJs (8:00)
LA PALAPA NTO's (8:00)
LA ZONA ROSA Rob Dickinson, the Church (9:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band (6:00), Anagen (10:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Bloodshot Pyramid, Rockus Circus, Jimamo
MANUEL'S GREAT HILLS Cadaques
MOMOS Francis McGrath, Consumption Hooks, Francis, Outcry (8:00)
MOTHER'S CAFE Doc Grauzer (6:00)
NAT'S PUB Karaoke w/ Big Jim
NORTH BY NORTHWEST Central Time (6:30)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Preacher Keen, Alan Haynes (8:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Randy Rogers Band
THE OAKS Mike Clifford Acoustic Duo (7:00)
THE PARISH Diplo, CSS, Blonde Do Role
THE PARLOR Peachcakes, Muchos Backflips
PARQUE ZARAGOZA Mary Welch y Los Curanderos
PLUSH Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Cari Hudson Band
POODLE DOG LOUNGE The Moonhangers
THE PUB Karaoke
RADISSON Winton Reynolds Jazz Trio
RANCH 616 Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (8:00)
RED FEZ Vehicular (8:00), Nuthin' New All-Stars (10:30)
RED'S SCOOT INN The Nortons (8:30)
REDRUM Fireside Legacy, Enemy Breed, Blood of the Lamb (8:00)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine, Cienfuegos (6:00)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Blue Diamond Shine
RIO GRANDE MEXICAN RESTAURANT Twangzilla
ROADHOUSE Open Jam w/ Mojo (8:00)
ROMEO'S Jacinta (6:30)

ROOFTOP AT HOULIHAN'S 8 Million Stories
ROOM 710 La Mancha, Red Devil, Transgressors
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Cotton Inks
RUTA MAYA Niki Duncan & the Minklined Men, Sara Hickman Soul Purpose
SÃO PAULO'S Aye Cafe (7:30)
SAXON PUB Rob Roy Parnell (6:00), Carolyn Wonderland, George Devore (8:00)
SHADY GROVE The Gourds (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Billy D
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Rat Ranch
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Robert Socia (8:30)
SKY LOUNGE Retro Thursdays w/ DJ Def M
T.C.'S LOUNGE The Leghounds (9:30)
TAMBALEO DJ Tats (10:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Henry Craft
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Lucky Strikes (7:30)
TRIPLE CROWN RC Banks, Carlton Pride & Zion
TROPHY'S One & Two's, Two Tonic Nights, Fluffers Union, Charlie Pott's Magical Windmill Band
TROUBADOUR SALOON Euphoria, Jabarvy, Portal
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Troublesome Trio
Z'TEJAS Kris Kimura (6:00)

Fri 28

311 CLUB Gilson Viator, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Porter Davis (3:30)
ABIA: HILL COUNTRY BAR Melissa Greener (3:30)
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Two of Hearts, Barrelhouse Dogs
ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE Heroes (8:30)
ANTONE'S Plane of Existence, Tyrone Vaughan, Vallejo, Souliat (9:00)
ANTONIO'S TEX-MEX CAFE & CANTINA Bocastris (11:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Nancy Scott
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR The Eggmen
AUSTIN CITY HALL PLAZA Latin at Heart (noon)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Altar Boyz
BEAUTY BAR Prince Klassen (10:00)

BECK'S ON CONGRESS Emile Millar (6:00), Parker Worsham (8:00)
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BOAT HOUSE GRILL Byrd & Street
BOB BULLOCK TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM Johnny Degollado (6:00)
'BOUT TIME DJ Kim Hicks
BRENTWOOD TAVERN Bobby G & the Drive
BROKEN SPOKE Alvin Crow
BROWN BAR DJ Gray, Late Night w/ mr.ripley (9:00)
CACTUS CAFE Buttercup, Moonlight Towers
CAFE MUNDI Project Life's Free Angola Capoeira Society w/ Capoeira Angola (8:00), Those Bastards (9:00)
CARIBBEAN LIGHTS All U Need Friday
CEDAR STREET Philip & Shawn (6:00)
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Malford Milligan (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Django Walker, Ben Danaher
CIPOLLINA Cienfuegos (8:00)
CLUB ONE 15 Blend Fridays w/ DJ Inverse, DJ Casanova, Overlord (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike Flanigin B-3 Trio, Blues Specialists (6:30), Mario Matteoli, Paul Minor, Li'l Cap'n Travis (10:00)
COOL RIVER CAFE Lipservice (9:45)
COTTON CLUB Wild Horses Band
CYPRESS CREEK CAFE Robyn Ludwick
DAN MCKLUSKY'S Bobby Doyle (7:00)
DANDELION CAFE Rebecca's Ragtime Revue (6:00)
DESSAU MUSIC HALL Tha Foundation, Those Nuf-Sed Boys, Lil' O, Too Short
THE DIRTY DOG Ryan Davis, Bag 100, Foolhardy (9:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters
THE DRISKILL Kirk Hale, Suzi Stern, George Oldziej (6:00)
EGO'S The Happy Families, Carousel Shy, Rescue Mission, Midori Umi (8:00)
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Oliver Rajamani (7:30)
ELEMENT DJ 2DQ (10:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Elana James, Trumpet Tribute w/ Ephraim Owens (6:00)
ELYSIUM Hipnautica, Cry Blood Apache, PLID, Before Dawn

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THURSDAY, JULY 27

THE MINDERS THE KINGDOM

SPAIN COLORED ORANGE • THE CHANNEL
TICKETS AVAILABLE

FRIDAY, JULY 28

EARLY SHOW: DOORS 5, SHOW 5:30

BLACKPOOL LIGHTS

(JIM OF GET UP KIDS)

THE WORKING TITLE

DAYS AWAY • SLIDERS FAULT

(FUELED BY RAMEN)

LATE SHOW:

BROTHERS & SISTERS

THE BLACK • THE THEATER FIRE
PINK NASTY

SATURDAY, JULY 29



PEACHES

AND HERMS (11PM)
DEADBOY & THE ELEPHANTMEN (10PM)

EAGLES OF DEATH METAL CANCELED

UGLY BEATS (9PM)

TICKETS AVAILABLE

FREE AFTER PARTY INSIDE

WITH GOOD TIMES CRISIS BAND

SUNDAY, JULY 30

EARLY SHOW, DOORS 5, SHOW 5:30

AT ALL COST VERSUS THE MIRROR

STRANGER • EXIT THE KING

MONDAY, JULY 31

EMO'S LOUNGE:

THE MOANERS

(MEMBERS OF TRAILER BRIDE)

SECRET WEAPONS

MR LEWIS AND THE FUNERAL 5

DARLING NEW NEIGHBORS

INSIDE:

RIGHTEOUS JAMS • IRON AGE

HERE COMES TROUBLE • THE SILENCE KILLS

coming soon: • 8/9 LAGWAGON* • 8/10 THE RENTALS/OZMA* • 8/11 SAGE FRANCIS* • 8/12 THE METEORS*/FATLIP (LOUNGE)* • 8/14 HORNS OF HAPPINESS • 8/15 THE SWORD / SAVIORS* • 8/18 THE CARBONNAS • 8/19 GET HIM EAT HIM / EVANGELICALS • 8/25 GORILLA BISCUITS • 8/30 THOR / ZOLAR X* • 8/31 MAE (EARLY)*/DON CABALLERO (LATE)* • 9/2 SCRATCH ACID REUNION* • 9/14 OFFICIAL PRE ACL SHOW WITH THE POLYPHONIC SPREE PLUS PILOT DRIFT / PHILLIP E KARNATS (OUT) OCTOPUS PROJECT / ENON / TOKYO POLICE CLUB (IN) • 9/16 OFFICIAL ACL AFTERPARTY WITH SPARKLEHORSE (ADVANCE TICKETS FOR 9/14 & 9/16 VIA FRONTGATE)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1

GRIS GRIS

FACELESS WEREWOLVES
TRANSRESSORS • HAO CHIANG CHIANG
TICKETS AVAILABLE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2

JUST ADDED!

CLOACAL KISS (EX-SAWTOOTH GRIN)
THUMBSCREW • TRIUMPH OF GNOMES
ROBINSON • DESTROYER DESTROYER
SIGNS OF COLLAPSE 9PM

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

CAPITALIST CASUALTIES

(20TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR!)

ORIGIN • PLEASANT VALLEY
(RELAPSE) PANTHER ZORA • HARDA KAST

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

JUST GUNS • PEEL
THE BOXING LESSON • TBA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

TWO STAGES FOR ONE PRICE!

OUTSIDE:

GHOSTLAND OBSERVATORY

PONG • LIONS



INSIDE:

SAY HI TO YOUR MOM

PROM NITE TICKETS AVAILABLE (9PM)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

EMO'S LOUNGE:

BOOTCAMP CLIK FEATURING
BUCKSHOT • SMIF N WESSUN
HELTAN SKELTAN • SEAN PRICE
GLOBAL • JUST BORN

DJS TAKO & NOTION

TICKETS AVAILABLE

INSIDE:

LOWER CLASS BRATS RESILIENCE

KRUMBUMS • THE DISPICABLES
TICKETS AVAILABLE

MONDAY, AUGUST 7

CLOSED

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8

LADYHAWK • THE COKE DARES
MIKE BOOHER/CATHERINE DAVIS OF ZYKOS

★FREE EVENTS IN THE★ EMO'S LOUNGE

800 E. 6TH • CORNER OF 6TH & RED RIVER

• 7/27 "THE GATHERING" A WEEKLY EVENT (EVERY THURS)
W/ GUEST MCS, DJS & OPEN MIC. MUSICMIND.NET
• 7/28 STAY GOLD WITH DJ JOHN GROSS (PARTYENDS.
COM) AND THE MOUTH PLUS VALHALLA • 7/29 CHASING
REALITY, IMBIBE • 7/31 MOANERS (NOT FREE) • 8/3 "THE
GATHERING" • 8/6 BOOTCAMP CLIK (TIX AVAILABLE)

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THUR 7.27..... DOORS 9PM

DIPLO OF HOLLERTRONIX CSS BONDE DO ROLE



FRI 7.28..... DOORS 9PM

LOXSLY

BLACK BEFORE RED

XCELLA

TUES 8.1..... DOORS 8PM

AUGUSTANA

BRADY

SAILS

FRI 8.4..... DOORS 9PM

MASONIC

CD RELEASE

CRASH GALLERY

SHANE BARTELL

SAT 8.5..... DOORS 9PM

KING JAMES

MR BLAKES

DJ KURUPT OF 93.3

THUR 8.10..... DOORS 9PM

JABARVY

CD RELEASE PARTY

ABOUT:BLANK

8.13 THE CLIENTELE

8.18 FINAL FANTASY

(OWEN PALLET OF ARCADE FIRE)

8.19 ROCK THE CASBAH W. DJ MEL

8.26 THE HAIRY APES BMX

9.8 & 9.9 GRUPO FANTASMA CD RELEASE

8.30 SIERRA SWAN W/ MOZELLA

UNCORKED AND UNPLUGGED

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Th 27 RC Banks 6pm
Carlton Pride & Zion 9pm

Fr 28 Mark Jungers 6pm
Los Gallos 9pm

Sa 29 Rebecca Creek, Robbie & the Robots 10pm

Su 30 Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly or Nate

Mo 31 Molly Hayes 6pm

Tu 1 The Bruce Curtis Band 6pm

We 2 Scott Wood 6pm
Ricky Stein, Grant Ewing 9pm

Th 3 The Christophers 6pm
Mind Divided, Love Above Law,
Spank 9pm

Fr 4 Rabb Rodriguez 6pm
Thomas Champagne with Friends 9pm

Sa 5 Word Association, Gobi, Lomita 10pm

THE BACK ROOM

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THURSDAY, JULY 27 (8p doors)

ANDICE

SONS OF KORA DAEMOON FLY

\$5 PITCHERS OF ZIEGENBOCK,
\$1.50 LONE STAR, \$1 WELLS 7-10p

FRIDAY, JULY 28 (8p doors)

MC TRUTH & THE

BACK ROOM ALL-STARS

AIR TIGHT ALIBI

HATCHETWORK

LUGNUT WAX DART

HERE'S TO NOTHING

FREE SHOW IN BEER GARDEN, 7-9p:

STEEL LOCO

\$5.50 FOSTER'S PITCHERS, 75¢ WELL DRINKS 8-10:30 PM

SATURDAY, JULY 29

FAREWELL TO AUSTIN FESTIVAL!

FOOD & DRINK SPECIALS ALL DAY

FREE SHOWS NOON-8:30p

PARIAH TRIBUTE

W/HELLAPEÑO

FURY REUNION

THE HIT REUNION

MEVYN

THE JOLLY GAROGERS

QUARTERSHACKLE

STONE FREE (TRIBUTE TO JIMI HENDRIX)

BIG BALLS (TRIBUTE TO AC/DC)

IGNITOR

SHRAPNEL

MANIFESTO

DISTEMPERED

+ MANY MORE!!

MUSIC FROM OPEN TO CLOSE!

SUNDAY, JULY 30 (Ladies free 'til 11)

A SPECIAL GOODBYE SHOW FROM

AUSTIN'S HIP HOP COMMUNITY!

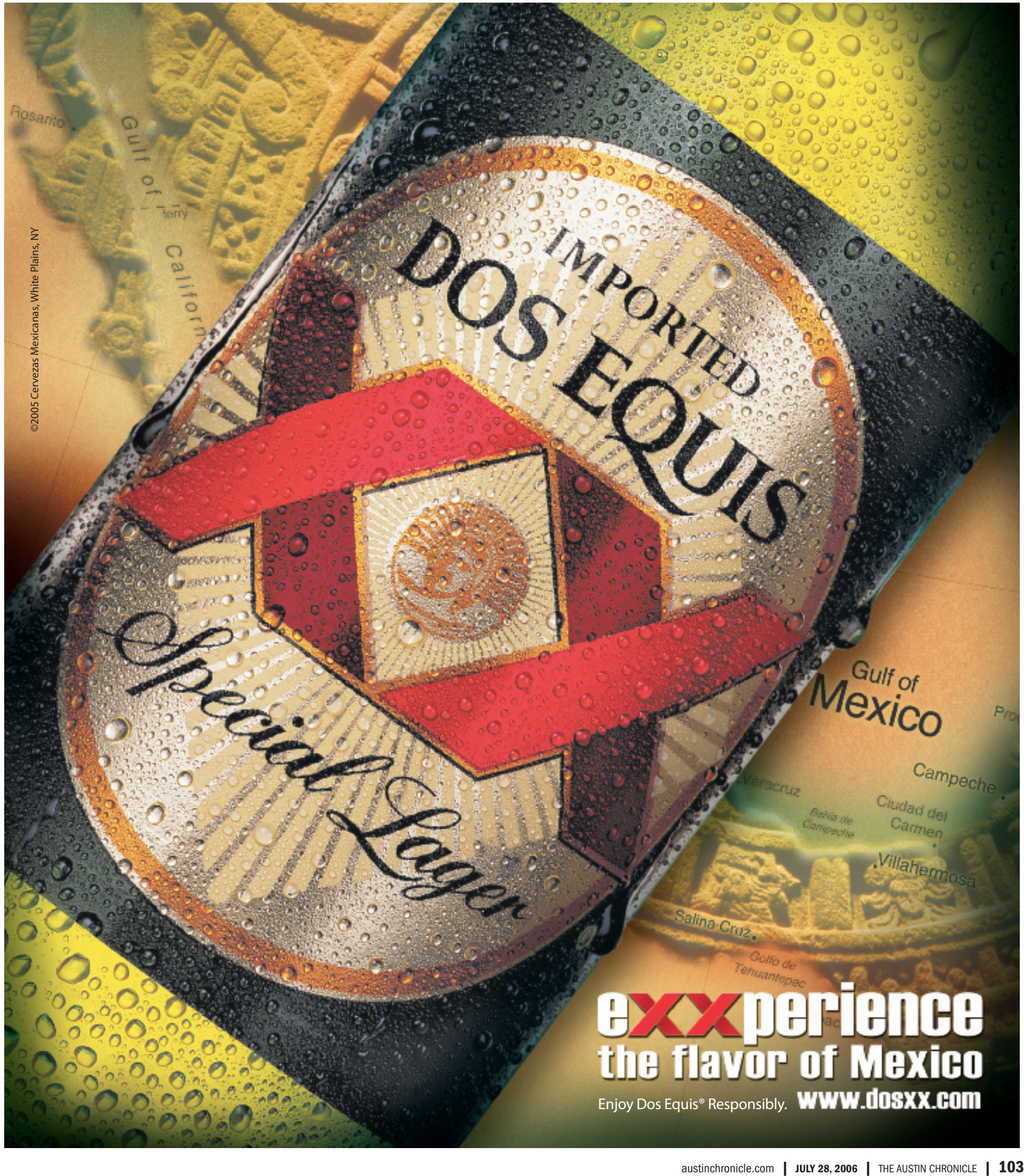
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FRIDAY JULY 28
MALFORD MULLIGAN
soul blues

SATURDAY JULY 29
CATAVENTO
latin

SUNDAY JULY 30
SEAN HOPPER QUARTET
jazz

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 2
BISCUIT BROTHERS
children's entertainment

UPCOMING SHOWS:

August 4 - **TEXAS EASTSIDE KINGS**
August 5 - **CORNELL HURD**
August 6 - **PETE RODRIGUEZ**

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Saturday • August 12
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Friday • August 25
KATE CAMPBELL

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AAS is held at University Presbyterian Church located at 2203 San Antonio St. For ticket info, go to www.austinacousticseries.com

calendar > COMMUNITY > ARTS > FILM > MUSIC

club listings << FROM SATURDAY

IT'S A GRIND COFFEEHOUSE Songwriter Night (7:00)
JOHNNY FINS Sophisticates (9:00)
JOVITA'S Rubber Monsters, the Frets, Joyride (2:00), Salim Nourallah, Jayson Bales & the Revival, the Chemistry Set, the Transcenders (7:00)
LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim
LUCKY LOUNGE James Speer Band (8:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Songwriter Showcase
MAGGIE MAE'S Patrick Fleming (6:30)
MOMOS Wendy Colonna, Ginger Leigh, Drew Smith (8:00)
MOONRIVER Knee Deep (9:30)
NAT'S PUB Larry
NORTH BY NORTHWEST Too Blue (6:30)
NUEVO LEON Mary Welch y Los Curanderos (8:00)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Ryan Davis Band, Altar Boyz (7:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Monte Montgomery
THE OAKS Caroline Casey, Two Timin' Three, Miss Lauren Marie, Lucas Hudgins & 1st Cousins, Michael Shane Borden, Bonbon Vivant, Cardinal Syn
THE OASIS Haywire
THE OFFICE LOUNGE The Burners
THE PARLOR The Brownstars, Condemned Unit, Long Since Forgotten
PLUSH Turntable Manners w/ DJ Tats, Dirty Harry
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Billy D.
RADISSON Kent Mahew
RED EYED FLY Dremnt the End
RED FEZ DJ Kurv (10:30)
REDRUM Seaflea, Furthest From the Star, Fallen From the Nest (8:00)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Lucky Strikes (8:30)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge; Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Joel Hofmann Band
ROADHOUSE Billy D
ROOFTOP AT HOULIHAN'S Damesviolet
ROOM 710 Split Hoof, Ezra's Free Range Bastards, Pudding, Hobbie
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Lofton Kline
RUTA MAYA Rock & Romp w/ the Asylum Street Spankers, Spankers Adult Show (4:30)
SÃO PAULO'S Trio (7:30)
SAXON PUB Crystal Image, Carolyn Wonderland (8:00)
SHENANIGANS The Invisibles
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Rat Ranch
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Larry Lange's Dance Party (9:00)
SHOOTING STARS COFFEE Obatalah (1:00)
SKI SHORES The Flyin' A's (noon), Fingerpistol (6:30)
SNUFFY'S Byrd & Street w/ Chris Byrd (7:30)
STARDUST CLUB John Ward
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Groovin Ground, Moving Matter
TAMBALEO DJ Kurrupt, DJ Inverse (10:00)
TEXAS 1115 Zydeco Saturday

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Digital Juke
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (7:30)
TRIPLE CROWN Robbie & the Robots, Rebecca Creek
TROPHY'S Tom Waits Hoot w/ Grub Dog, Mr. Lewis & the Funeral Five, Possessed by Paul James, Boxspring Hogs
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ R.J.
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Lee Edwards & Claudia Voyles
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH Poor Yorick (10:00)
WOODY'S SOUTH The Dreadful Sorry, Las Damas

Sun 30

ALICE'S RESTAURANT Funsters, Zee Grass
ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE K'Cee (4:00)
ANTONE'S Eric Tessmer (11:00)
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Monte Montgomery
B.B. ROVERS Open Mic w/ Joe Gee, David Patrick Dunn (7:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tune Session (8:00)
BACK ROOM Chaly Boy, Rob-G, C-Note, Magno, the End
THE BACKYARD Hootie & the Blowfish
BECK'S ON CONGRESS Aimee Bobruk (7:00)
BEERLAND Blixa, A Particularly Vicious Rumor, [austin swim]
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Margaret Miller
CEDAR STREET Les & the Funk Mob (9:30)
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Sean Hopper Quartet (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Asylum Street Spankers
CONTINENTAL CLUB Club: Heybale! w/ Redd & Earl; Gallery: Mike Flanigin B-3 Trio (10:00)
COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (5:00)
EGO'S Blixa, Particularly Vicious Rumor, Hillie Lyman (8:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Torch (9:30)
ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice
EMO'S Exit the King, Stringer, Versus the Mirror, At All Cost
FADO Emerald Exiles (8:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Old Time Music Night w/ Ralph White, John Clay, Pistol Love Family Band, FiddleFish, Health & Happiness, Trainwreck Washington
FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam w/ Walter Higgs (9:00)
GIDDY UPS Karaoke
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Ted Hall's Blues Church/Jam
GREEN PASTURES Jacques Vilmain (11:00 am)
GRUENE HALL Dan McCoy, Walt Wilkins Band (12:30)
GUERO'S TACO BAR Los Flames (3:00)

HEADHUNTERS Chinga Bueno, Pretty Pretty, Hit by a Car, Destroyed for Comfort, Scary Mondelos, Los Hispanos UK
HOLE IN THE WALL Rebecca's Ragtime Revue, Black Joe, Ricky Stein (9:00)
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Jazz Brunch w/ Kinket (11:00 am)
JO'S HOT COFFEE Sinner's Brunch: Tina Rose & the Jo's House Band (12:30)
JOHNNY FINS Mark Chandler Duo (5:00)
JOVITA'S The Flying A's (6:00)
LUCY'S LOUNGE Everyday People (10:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Disfigured Metal Showcase
MANUEL'S Triana (11:30 am)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Gospel Project w/ PJ Liles (10:30 am), Imperial Golden Crown Harmonizers (12:30)
MOMOS The Johns, Warren Hood & the Hoodlums, Derty Bird (8:00)
MOONRIVER Sherry Frushay & Friends (4:00)
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Karaoke w/ Edie (9:00)
NUEVO LEON Mariachi Relampago (1:00)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Open Mic w/ Jimi Lee (9:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz
THE OASIS The Brew
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Mrs. K
PAGGI HOUSE DJ Mike Swing
PLUSH Car Stereo Wars
POODLE DOG LOUNGE Sunny Sweeney (8:30)
RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)
RAIN ON 4TH Hedda Layne (5:30)
RED FEZ DJ Kurrupt (10:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/ Glenn Allen & Kim McKenzie
ROADHOUSE Open Mic w/ Josh
RUTA MAYA The Tonnathon w/ Supercontinent, Bello Ragazzo, Low Line Caller (8:00)
SAN MARCOS RIVER PUB & GRILL Kevin Welch (7:30)
SAXON PUB The Resentments, Walter Tragert, Jay Thomas Band (7:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D
SKI SHORES Aimee Bobruk, Karen Mai (noon)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Lee and Andy
THE CROSSINGS Sunday Singing at Seven w/ Walt & Tina Wilkins (7:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Molly Hayes (9:00)
THE WATER TANK Open Mic w/ Patrick
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE WEST Sunday Brunch w/ Buzz Guerra
WOODY'S SOUTH Southside Sunday Brunch w/ the God Fearing String Band; Later: Bonnie Holmes, the Good the Bad & the Sunday
WOOLDRIDGE SQUARE PARK Austin Symphony Orchestra w/ Large String Ensemble

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

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AN UNINHIBITED DANCE CLUB FOR ADVENTUROUS COUPLES

Sat., July 29 is "Pretty in Pink"
\$10 off cover charge with ad for this event.

Hot August Nights begins Sat., Aug. 5
with our infamous Lingerie & Pajama party.

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Chris Austin Martinez

Friday July 28, 7-10
Austin's Favorite
HAYWIRE



Saturday July 29 7-10
Memphis Train

Sunday July 30, 7-10
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HEADHUNTERS

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THU 7/27 > ELECTRIC CRUSH, THE "N" CROWD, DARLIN MAUDIE (P), CATALYST
FRI 7/28 > CHADD THOMAS & KRAZY KINGS, TRASH ROCKETS (P), MEATWOOD, DOUBLE CLUTCH (P), GATESVILLE
SAT 7/29 > SASQUATCH & THE SICKABILLIES, TURBO 350, SATURDAY NIGHT SHOCKERS (P), 3 POT OFFY
SUN 7/30 > LOS HISPANOS UK, THE SCAREY MONDELOS, DESTROYED BY COMFORT (P), HIT BY A CAR,
PRETTY PRETTY (P), CHINGA BUENO MON 7/31 > "00" SPIES, PANTHER ZORA, ENDING SILENCE,
JELLO WRESTLING-CHERRY BOMB CHEEK SQUAD (P) TUE 8/1 > ROB & MARK (from NEW DISASTER) B-DAY BASH
(KARAOKE) WED 8/2 > MIKE GOT SPIKED, GROUND BENEATH (P), THE STEED
Rollergirl Jello Wrestling - Mon 7/31 -- Rob & Mark's (New Disaster) B-Day Karaoke - Tue 8/1

Bull McCabe's Irish Pub

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THURSDAY-JULY 27
HARD HELL PRODUCTIONS
ON THE BURNING CHAIRS
LEATHERHEAD
DR. ZOOM
MATHMAN'S STUPID DRAMA
LOVE AND FAME AND DEATH
HAPPY HOUR W/ BEST LIVE IN TOWN

FRIDAY-JULY 28
KIDS DANGER FIST
DEAD SCUM MASK
NEW DISASTER
LEAGUE
THE KNOCKED OUT STIFFS
THE BRICKS ATX
ADRENALINE FACTOR
HAPPY HOUR W/ JESSIE ELIAS

SATURDAY-JULY 29
DREMNT THE END
DRIVER F
FURTHEST FROM THE STAR
ELDRIDGE
HAPPY HOUR W/ SHELL COE

SUNDAY-JULY 30
GONIA/PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS
SOUNDS OF THE SILENT
ENDING SILENCE
ANDREW HARRIS
CRASH THE PROM
MELISSA LARSEN
TURNING OF A MAN
EXECUTED

MONDAY-JULY 31
MILE HIGH SCHOOL
ROSE MATTER
JADEN'S MOVE

TUESDAY-AUGUST 1
INDOFIN
THE KNOW HOW
ECHO SQUAD
SKEPTIC REPUBLIC

WEDNESDAY-AUGUST 2
AL SHIRE
WE'LL GO MACHETTE

THURSDAY-AUGUST 3
BIG MIKE'S ROCK BUFFET
BIG BALLS
BLACK EARTH
EDITS ON SPEED
BUTCHERWHITE
HAPPY HOUR W/ BEST LIVE IN TOWN

FRIDAY-AUGUST 4
HONKY
DIXIE WITCH
SECRET DEVIL HANDSHAKE
SABBATH CROW
HAPPY HOUR W/ JESSIE ELIAS

SATURDAY-AUGUST 5
JOHNNY GOUDIE
SOUNDS UNDER RADIO
SPIRITUAL MACHINES
HOTSY DUO
JULIE BOSSHART
HAPPY HOUR W/ SHELL COE

UPCOMING SHOWS
8/10 CARBONFAMOUS CAR SEARCH/HOLLYWOOD CULE STUBBART & ANTHONY COLABRACK
8/11 BY MY WING NERISSA NEPHEAL WATSON/DAVID JENSEN
8/12 A PROCESSION OF BLOOD THE FOUR AGAINST SLEEP THE ESCAPE
8/13 PROCESSION THE INFORMATION THE LYN MCTON SCORPION
THE SHREKERS
8/15 SAM WELSH ROCK, ENGINEER, JENSEN

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THU 7.27
TRANSGRESSORS
RED DEVIL
LA MANCHA

FRI 7.28
ABYTHOS
PEYTON GIN
SWEET SKULL
BLOOD OF PATRIOTS

SAT 7.29
HOBBLE
PUDDING
FREE RANGE BASTARDS
SPLIT HOOF
7pm: Flashback

SUN 7.30
OPEN
CRAZY, HOT, AND LONG

Mon 7.31
HEART & SOUL
SOUND SYSTEM

Tue 8.1
MR. LEWIS
& the FUNERAL FIVE
CHADD THOMAS
& CRAZY KINGS

Wed 8.2
KISS KISS
CALEB INGSTROM
YOU MAKE ENGINE

UPCOMING SHOWS
8.3 Goeth Rock, Rio Ponderosa, La Mancha, Wakes From Underground
8.4 Mouthbreath 8.5 Bitchy ATX, Pulp Red 8.6 Murder Vain (CT), ADA

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705 RED RIVER ST.

THU SPECIAL EVENT! JUL 27
BLITZKRIEG!
Audio Industrial Warfare
featuring DJs Raleigh & Sensoria
NO COVER with ticket stub from the Church

FRI LIVE! JUL 28
Before Dawn
plid
Cry Blood Apache
hipnautica

SAT a HAVEN music night JUL 29
LIVE!
VAST
DJs VOID & THE GOTHFATHER

SUN retro 80's JUL 30
REGRESSION
DJ PUMPKIN SPICE

TUE lesbian night AUG 1
SAPPHO'S ISLE
DJs AMERYKAH & DOJA

WED NO COVER AUG 2
MID*WAVE
dark 80's retro & old school goth
DJ PUMPKIN SPICE

UPCOMING EVENTS
Thu Aug 3 *Live! Helltrash,
Beyond Hope, Gravity Euphonic
Fri Aug 4 *Live! CTRL, EXIT,
Black Math Experiment

21+ only, doors @ 9:30 PM unless specified
more detailed information available at:
www.elysiumonline.net (512) 478-2979

BEER LAND TEXAS

th 27 Born to Lose, Rat City Riot,
The Booked

fr 28 Hotrod Hillbillies, Flamin'
Hellcats, Deuce Coupe Demons
Box Spring Hogs @8pm

sa 29 Trey Bohles Going Away Party
Rolls Royce, Hard Feelings
reunion?, Hottrails, Victims of
Lelure, & more

su 30 Austin Swim, followed by:
A particularly vicious rumor, Blixa

mo 31 Rock and Roll Karaoke
1000+ songs--no cover

tu 1 Karaoke Apocalypse:
Dead Motley Sex Maidens

we 2 Ghost of the Fussian Empire,
Lomita, Moth Fight

th 3 Daniel Francis Doyle,
Knuckles, Analog Ant

fr 4 Sons of Hercules,
Bad Rackets
8pm Mr. Lewis & the Funeral 5

sa 5 Flametricks Subs, Satan's
Cheerleaders, High Rollers

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Mike & Truth

the Backroom All Stars

featuring: Anton Smith Dan Collins Pete Navarrete Mel Langenberg



special guests
performers

Dustin Stroud
Sal Silva III
Juan Lopez
Bandy Rector

Friday
july 28
2006

ALL AGES
\$3-\$5

DOORS
7:30PM

featuring members of and playing songs of the following bands:

Rubberhed, Unloco, Hekill3, Shovelnoise, JFK666, Vicious Souls, Air Tight Alibi, Hatchetwork, Lugnut, Waxdart, Here's to Nothing, & many many more



The DRY DOCK
at The Canary Nest

featuring seafood delights. 5800 Burnet Road

calendar > COMMUNITY > ARTS > FILM > MUSIC

Mon 31

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Idgy Vaughn (3:30)

ANTONE'S Asleep at the Wheel (8:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Trent Turner

BEERLAND Everett's Rock & Roll Karaoke

BLIND PIG PUB Patrick Fleming (10:00)

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Margaret Miller

CEDAR STREET Kevin Ahart (6:00), Jukebox Heroes (9:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Big John Mills

CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Rich Demarco (6:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Paris '49 (6:30), Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (10:00)

THE DIRTY DOG Country Night w/ Wonder Boy (9:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

EGO'S Telling Stories (9:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)

EMO'S Inside: The Silence Kills, Here Comes Trouble, Iron Age, Righteous Jams; Lounge: Darling New Neighbors, Mr. Lewis & the Funeral Five, Secret Weapons, the Moaners

FLAMINGO CANTINA Brilliant Red Lights, Cocker Spaniels, the Dimes

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Cheryl Bliss

FRIENDS Eric Tessmer (7:00)

GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL All-Star Karaoke

GRUENE HALL The Heathens (7:30)

HEADHUNTERS "00" Spies, Panther Zora, Ending Silence, Jello Wrestling-Cherry Bomb Cheek Squad

THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Open Mic Poetry & Reading (7:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Pamela Ryder, JJ Baron (9:00)

JACK'S BACKYARD Karaoke w/ Stars Across Texas (9:00)

LONGBRANCH INN Singer-Songwriter Night

LUCKY LOUNGE The Swells Wave (10:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Robbie's Open Mic Night

MOMOS Chris Spencer, Christina Roberts, Brandon McHose, Creature of Unusual Size (7:00)

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson, Je Renee, Carl Koonce

NASTY'S DJ Mel, Jahmighty

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Li'l Steph, Texcellorators, Open Musicians Jam (8:00)

PARDNERS Karaoke

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Summer Talent Search (8:00)

POODLE DOG LOUNGE The Stepsiders (9:30)

RED EYED FLY Rosematter, Mile High School

RED FEZ Motown w/ DJ Tats

REDRUM Necktie Suicide, Whore of Babylon (8:00)

REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine (6:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Jordan Minor & Shaun Line

ROOM 710 Heart & Soul Sound System

ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE TR Sterzing

RUTA MAYA Carolyn Wonderland (6:00), Nathan Singleton & His Sideshow Tragedy (8:30)

SAXON PUB Matt the Electrician, Michael Kingcaid, Dross, Dredingers (7:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Joe Vega

SPEAKEASY James Gossett (9:30)

TAMBALEO Open Mic (8:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Molly Hayes (6:00)

TRUPHY'S The Meshbanes

THE WATER TANK Acoustic Jam Open Mic w/ Tony Fant

WOODY'S SOUTH Grant Davidson

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (8:00)

FRIENDS Erin Jaimes & Her Bad Habits, Alan Haynes (7:30)

GIDDY UPS Billy Garza & Trouble No More (8:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Billy Dee (9:00)

GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Mau Mau Chaplains

GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Open Stage w/ Felix the Kid

GRUENE HALL Two Ton Tuesday w/ Two Tons of Steel (8:00)

HABANA CALLE 6 Trey Lanshe (8:00)

HANOVER'S Pete Benz & Kevin Havron (7:30)

HEADHUNTERS Rob & Mark, Karaoke

THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Josh (8:00)

HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Leo Stokes

HOLE IN THE WALL Amanda Cunningham (8:00)

IT'S ITALIAN "Frankly Singing" w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)

JOVITA'S Ethan Azarian, DJ G & the Furious Three, Rival City

LA PALAPA Brewer Nation

LUCKY LOUNGE Boombox (10:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Rosematter, Mile High School

MANCHACA FIREHALL KITCHEN Songwriters Roundtable w/ K'Cee (6:00)

MOMOS Free Nugs & the Kickbaxx, Tyler Wood, John Evans

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Swamp Sauce (8:00)

THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Billy D

PARDNERS Open Mic w/ the Michael Petty Band (7:30)

THE PARISH Brady Sails, Augustana

PLUSH Mentalnote

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Troubadillos

THE PUB Karaoke w/ Justin

RADISSON Murphy's In-Laws

RANCH 616 Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (8:00)

RED EYED FLY The Hat Madder

RED FEZ Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (10:00)

REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Denia Ridley w/ Marc Devine (6:30)

RHINOS & JOCKS ROUND ROCK Karaoke w/ Mr. K.

RILEY'S TAVERN Joel Hofmann Band

ROMEO'S Jacinta (6:30)

ROPER'S NIGHTCLUB Open Mic

ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Tony Maserati

RUTA MAYA Poetry, Music Open Mic (6:00), Open Jam w/ the MCO Band (11:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/ Dewey Lyon (9:00)

SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM Jim Ivy's Jinxstreet Band (7:00)

SAXON PUB Beth Black, Otis Gibbs, Shawn Nelson & the Ramblers, Will Sexton (6:00)

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Rae Rae

SHOAL CREEK SALOON Redd Volkaert (8:00)

THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Josh (8:00)

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JOVITA'S Ethan Azarian, DJ G & the Furious Three, Rival City

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\$6 DOMESTIC PITCHERS AND
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THURSDAY JULY 27 **8:30**
Robert Socia

SATURDAY JULY 29 **8:00**
**Larry Lange's
Dance Party**

TUESDAY AUGUST 1 **8:00**
Redd Volkeart

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 2 **8:30**
Pamela Ryder

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Noon
Traditional Irish Music Brunch
With
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6pm
**Mother Egan's
"Shoot for Loot"**
Basketball Competition
Cash prize, free to enter, strictly over 21
9pm
Karaoke with Edie

Monday 31st
7pm
Dart Competition

Monday Man-Law Night
Weekly and monthly prizes for winning
New man-laws
Throwing of Darts, Shooting of Hoops, Watching of
Sports, Drinking of Beer, Passing of Gas,
Politically incorrect discussing of female body parts,
Crude jokes about the French,
and many other things offensive to the ladies.
Every Monday night at Mother Egan's.

Tuesday 1st
Trivia Quiz Finals
Free T-shirts for all participants. Top 12 teams
compete for 4 PSP's. Everyone else plays for
weekly gift certificates
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FRI 7/28 - ROCK - DOORS 830, SHOW 9
THE MUROCKS (RETURN)
THE MIDGETMEN
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OPPOSITE DAY

SAT 7/29 - SOCA - DOORS 830, SHOW 900
FIYA
SOCA/WORLD MUSIC

SUN 7/30 - 830 DOORS, 9 SHOW
THA FULZ & THE JOINT
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MON 7/31 - ROCK - 830 DOORS, 8 SHOW
THE COCKER SPANIELS
BRILLIANT RED LIGHTS
THE DIMES
THE SPIRITUAL MACHINES & MORE

TUES 8/01 - COMEDY - 830 DOORS, SHOW 900
E. MURRY MCKINLEY PRESENTS
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LIVE GAME SHOW WITH MUSIC/PRIZES

WED 8/02 - SOUL/FUNK/MTW-REP - 830 DOORS, 8 SHOW
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8/08 - Helras pres. GAMESHOW 8/09 - Starchild, FFL

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ENTER TO WIN ALL JULY
custom tattoo (courtesy of Black Cat Tattoo)
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ANY TAB OF \$25 OR MORE ENTERS YOU
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Winners drawn on July 10th, 20th, and 30th will choose their prize in the order they are selected.
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7/27 THURSDAY
Patrick Fleming 10PM

7/28 FRIDAY
Mysterious Ways
U2 Cover Band

7/29 SATURDAY
The Blaggards 10PM

7/30 SUNDAY
Emerald Exiles 8ish

7/31 MONDAY
Texas Hold'em
Poker 7PM

8/1 TUESDAY
Tea Merchants 9PM

8/2 WEDNESDAY
Pub Quiz w/ Johnny 8PM

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THURSDAY JULY 27 / \$5

OUTCRY 12:30
CREATURES OF UNUSUAL SIZE 11
CONSUMPTION HOOKS 9:30
FRANCIS McGRATH 8

FRIDAY JULY 28

 **JOHNNY GOUDIE**
12:30
& THE LITTLE CHAMPIONS
PALE 11
SOUTH FM 9:30
DEEP ELLA 8

SATURDAY JULY 29

GINGER LEIGH 9:30
DREW SMITH 12
WENDY COLONNA 8

SUNDAY JULY 30 / \$5

WARREN HOOD
& THE HOODLUMS 9-12
DERTY BIRD 12
THE JOHNS 8

MONDAY JULY 31 / \$5

MUNDEY NITE!
CREATURES OF UNUSUAL SIZE 12
BRANDON McHOSE 10
CHRISTINA ROBERTS 8:30
CHRIS SPENCER 7

TUESDAY AUGUST 1 / \$5

FREE NUG & THE KICKBACKXXX 10
TYLER WOOD 8
JOHN EVANS 12

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 2 / \$5

THE HEATHENS 9:30
W/ BRIAN KEANE, COLIN BROOKS, GORDY QUIST,
ED JURDI & SETH WHITNEY WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
SUZANNA CHOFFEL 12
THE GINN SISTERS
CD RELEASE PARTY 8
UPCOMING SHOWS

PATRICE PIKE 08/04
B-DAY BASH

MERKABA
LOUNGE & GRILL

Thursday, July 27

LADIES NIGHT 5:30-8:30pm
HAMENDE BROTHERS
ON PIANO & BASS 9pm

Friday, July 28

DYSFUNCTION JUNCTION 10pm

Saturday, July 29

FUSION 10pm

Sunday, July 30

SERVICE INDUSTRY NIGHT
9 - close
\$2.50 U Call It **DJ FUEGO**

Monday, July 31

FANTASY POKER LEAGUE
TEXAS HOLD'EM POKER TOURNEY
7 & 9:30pm
No Entry Fee \$100 Cash Prize

Tuesday, August 1

COLLEGE NIGHT 9pm - Close
\$2.50 U Call It

MERKABA UNPLUGGED
Live Music 10pm

Wednesday, August 2

KARAOKE 9:30pm

DAILY HAPPY HOUR
4-9PM M-F
11AM-9PM SAT & SUN
\$2 DOMESTIC DRAFTS
\$2.75 BIG ASS DOMESTIC DRAFTS
\$2 FROZEN RITAS - \$2 HOUSE WINE
\$5 HOUSE MARTINIS
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LIVE BLUES
7 nights a week

July 27:
8pm Preacher Keen
10pm Alan Haynes "Texas Blues"

July 28:
7pm Kayla Reeves & Triple Threat
10pm Carson Alexander Band
"Amazing Teen Musicians all night long"

July 29:
7pm Ryan Davis Band
10pm Altar Boyz featuring
Mike Milligan

July 30:
8pm Jimi Lee w/ El Coyote/
"Open Musician Jam"

July 31:
8pm Little Steph w/ special guest
Carson Alexander
10pm Texcellorators
"Blue Monday/ Open Musician Jam"

Aug. 1:
8pm Swamp Sauce
10pm TBA

Aug. 2:
8pm 8 Ball Down
10pm Preacher Keen

**\$2 Cover Thurs.,
Fri., Sat.**

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SATURDAY JULY 29

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Thu 7/27, 8:30pm
**SECONDS OF BLISS, ENEMY BREED,
FIRESIDE LEGACY**

Fri 7/28, 8:30pm
**COURSE OF RUIN, WITHIN CHAOS,
BROTHERHOOD, BURIED IN FIRE**

Sat 7/29, 4pm — Redrum Salutes "The Metal Haller"
First Annual Hell Born Metal Fest

**DISFIGURED, MASOCHISM,
INSIDIOUS STRANGULATION,
INSIDIOUS DECREPANCY, BALL GAG, GORED,
ERZEBET, DEMONIO, SCATTERED REMAINS,
STRANGLE CHELSEA, KAST, MUERTE VILLA**

Sun 7/30, 7pm — Desire's Birthday Bash
**HAVOC DOSE, DISTEMPERED,
RUINS OF HONOR, DESSENCE,
MANIFESTATION**

Tue 8/1, 8:30pm — Secret Oktober presents Handwired
**DI ARGO, DESTROYED FOR COMFORT,
SUBNATURAL, more**

Wed 8/2, 8pm — VEX "Legion of the Damned" Tour Kickoff
**ENEMY OF MANKIND, MASOCHISM, VEX,
GODLESS RISING, AVENGER OF BLOOD**

8/5 Genocide, Dethoth BBQ
8/6 Meet First, SoulBlood Divide, Bangladesh
8/7 Invited, Dead By Day
8/19 Back To Loser European Tour Kick Off
8/21 FRAIL
8/22 Broken Teeth Welcome Home Show

Handovers
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THURSDAY 7/27
KARAOKE 8PM
QUALIFY FOR A TRIP FOR 2 TO LAS VEGAS!
PRIZE OF \$500 GIVEAWAY

FRIDAY 7/28
BLOWN 7:30PM
THE EVERYDAY PEOPLE
PRIMM 10PM

SATURDAY 7/29
PAUL GREEN
SCHOOL OF ROCK 8PM
RAINSLIVER 9:30PM
BUTCHERWHITE 10:30PM
THE ADDICTIONS 11:30PM
ROCKLAND EAGLES 12:30AM

SUNDAY 7/30
FREE POKER 5 & 8PM

MONDAY 7/31
JAY DIRKS 8PM

TUESDAY 8/1
**PETE BENZ &
KEVIN HAVRON** 8PM

WEDNESDAY 8/2
BLUE DOG 7PM

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THU	Vehicular Nuthin' New All-Stars	8:00-11:00 11:00-2:00
FRI	DJ Gibb	10:00-2:00
SAT	DJ Kurv	10:00-2:00
SUN	DJ Kurupt	10:00-2:00
MON	DJ Tats	10:00-2:00
TUE	Twist Up DJ Manny	10:00-2:00
WED	Satisfaction DJ Shane	10:00-2:00

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Visit us at MySpace.com/redfezaustin and become a friend. Check out DJ update, event listings, and photos.

club listings ◀◀ FROM WEDNESDAY

SAXON PUB Pauline Reese (6:00), Monte Montgomery, Cord, Sidehill Gougers (8:00)
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Swells Wave
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Pamela Ryder (8:30)
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Karaoke
SNAKE EYES VINYL End of the Year, Abba Yo-Yos (7:00)
SOUTH FORTY Karaoke w/ J.R. the DJ (9:00)
SPEAKEASY Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (9:15)
TAMBALEO DJ Mike Swing, Tee Double (10:00)
TEXAS 1115 Wayback Wednesday w/ DJ K9, DJ Motivator
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ The Hudsons, Free Nugs & the Kickbaxxx (9:00)
TROPHY'S Scary Monelos, Sleeping Giant, El Charco
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Ptarmigan
WOODY'S SOUTH Mike Cross, Natalie Zoe (7:00)
Y BAR & GRILL Singer-Songwriter Night (6:30)
Z'TEJAS Stephen Doster & Will Sexton (6:00)

BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BROWN BAR mr.ripley
CACTUS CAFE Shake Russell
CEDAR STREET LC Rocks (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike Flanigin B-3 Trio, Mother Truckers (6:30), the Conrads, Elizabeth McQueen & the Firebrands (10:00)
DARWIN'S PUB J.T. Coldfire
THE DETOUR BAR & GRILL Bike Night w/ DavidJohn & the Wildcards
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Django's Mustache, Pete Rodriguez Quintet (6:00)
ELYSIUM Manufactura, Helltrash
EMO'S Lounge: The Gathering w/ DJ Notion & Guests, Harda Kast, Panther Zora, Pleasant Valley, Origin, Capitalist Casualties
FADO Patrick Fleming Power Duo (10:00)
THE FOUNDATION Coy West
GIDDY UPS Open Mic w/ Ted & Roy (8:00)
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Kris Farrow (7:30), Noltey (9:00)
HANOVER'S Karaoke
HILL'S CAFE Anthony Eby
HOLE IN THE WALL Hoe Slinger, Personals, Adrian & the Sickness (10:00)
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Poetry, Music Open Mic (8:00)
JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
LA PALAPA NTO's (8:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band (6:00), Damesviolet (10:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Jared Francis Band, Ricky Stein
MOMOS Wesley Lunsford, Consumption Hooks, Francis, Nelo (8:00)
MOTHER'S CAFE Doc Grauzer (6:00)
NAT'S PUB Karaoke w/ Big Jim
THE PARLOR The Heirs, Many Birthdays (8:00)

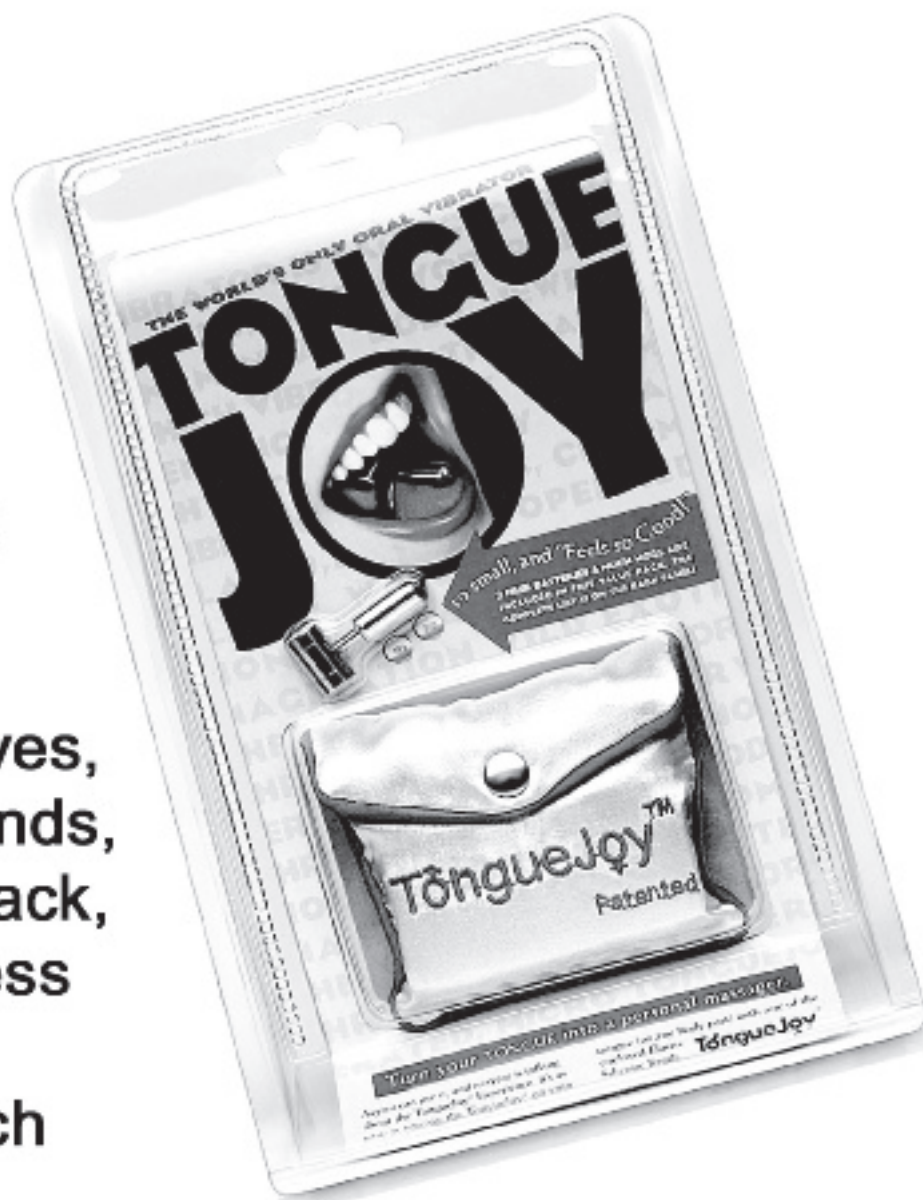
PLUSH Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown
THE PUB Karaoke
RADISSON Winton Reynolds Jazz Trio
RANCH 616 Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (8:00)
RED FEZ Vehicular (8:00), Nuthin' New All-Stars (10:30)
RED'S SCOOT INN The Nortons (8:30)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
ROADHOUSE Open Jam w/ Mojo (8:00)
ROMEO'S Jacinta (6:30)
ROOM 710 Notes From the Underground, La Mancha, Fra Pandolph, Gorch Fock
RUTA MAYA Austin Daze South Austin Picnic Social w/ LZ Love, Leeann Atherton, Shelley King, Mr. Brown (7:30)
SAXON PUB Rob Roy Parnell (6:00), Carolyn Wonderland, George Devore (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Billy D
SHOAL CREEK SALOON The Gunhands, Reid Wilson & His So-Called Friends
SKY LOUNGE Retro Thursdays w/ DJ Def M
TAMBALEO DJ Tats (10:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Henry Craft
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Greezy Wheels, Elana James & the Continental Two (9:00)
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (7:30)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Troublesome Trio
WHISKY BAR Brothers and Sisters
Y BAR & GRILL Jane Bond & Chad Tracy (7:00)
Z'TEJAS Thomas Hughes (6:00)

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.



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Value Pack includes:**
TongueJoy Oral Vibrator,
2 Free 393 Batteries,
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1 Variable Speed Turbo Pack,
1 Custom Surgical Stainless
Steel Barbell, and,
1 Embroidered Satin Pouch



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COMICS

How to Be Happy

by Shannon Wheeler

CAN I SING YOU A SONG I JUST WROTE?

SURE. IF I CAN TELL YOU ALL ABOUT THE DREAM I HAD LAST NIGHT...

OK. BUT FIRST I WANT TO TALK ABOUT THE REALLY BORING LOW-CARB DIET I'M ON.

ONLY AFTER I GO ON AND ON ABOUT MY DOG AND THE CUTE THINGS HE DOES... I KNOW YOU LOVE IT WHEN I CREDIT A PET WITH HUMAN EMOTIONS.

NO PROBLEM. AS SOON AS YOU CHECK OUT MY BADLY-PHOTO-COPIED POETRY-ZINE.

HOW ABOUT WE GO SEE A MOVIE SO WE WON'T HAVE TO TALK AT ALL?

SOUNDS GOOD TO ME.

OK. YOU WIN.

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WWW.TMCM.COM

TROUBLETOWN'S E-Z GUIDE TO WWIII!

BY LLOYD DANGLE

SADDAM DESTABILIZED THE REGION.

NO SADDAM HAS STABILIZED RADICAL ISLAM!

HEZBOLLAH IS WORSE THAN AL QAEDA.

HEZBOLLAH LOVES IRAN.

I HAVE NO WEAPONS.

THANK YOU!

THERE'S LITTLE DOUBT THAT HEZBOLLAH HAD A HAND IN 9-11.

MY KATYUSHAS ARE YOUR KATYUSHAS.

HEZBOLLAH IS FRIENDLY WITH NORTH KOREA.

EVERYBODY KNOWS HEZBOLLAH LOVES SYRIA.

THE SUNNIS WANT THE US TO STAY IN IRAQ. WE HATE YOU LESS THAN THE SHIITES.

BUT THE SUNNIS AND SHIITES ARE UNITED AGAINST ISRAEL.

A KATYUSHA ROCKET CAN FLY ABOUT 50 MILES BUT YOU CAN'T AIM IT.

ISRAEL IS A US-BACKED SUPER-POWER. YOU WOULD BE SO NUKED IF YOU WEREN'T ONLY 50 MILES AWAY.

BUSH HAS A COMMAND OF THE SITUATION.

THE USA LOVES DEMOCRACY.

LEBANON WAS THE MIDDLE EAST'S BEST DEMOCRACY.

THE US IS THE ONLY COUNTRY CAPABLE OF BROKERING A PEACE DEAL.

NEOCONS HAVE BEEN ITCHING TO ATTACK IRAN SINCE 1978.

THE PRESIDENT'S BASE WELCOMES ARMAGEDDON.

TOO BAD!

SPEED UP BOMB DELIVERY.

DAMN! WRONG AGAIN!

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YOUR TOYS

There are CERTAIN TOYS THAT WILL PLAY WITH YOU, and CERTAIN TOYS THAT WON'T.

ALWAYS LOOKS FRIENDLY!
BROWN PLASTIC WITH PAINTED ON EYES!
WALKS DOWN HILL!
MAKES GOOD NOISES!!
I FOUND IT IN THE ALLEY BY LARSEN'S TRASH.

There are TOYS THAT LIKE YOU AND ONES THAT DON'T CARE about YOU AND EVEN ONES THAT HATE you BACK.

THIS DOLL IS VERY LITTLE AND VERY MEAN!
ALL PLASTIC!
YELLOW TOP AND LEGS! WEIRD POKED IN EYES!
YOU THROW HER AWAY AND SHE KEEPS COMING BACK INTO YOUR LIFE!
YOU BURY HER IN THE ALLEY AND SHE DIGS HERSELF OUT!
MOVEABLE ARMS AND LEGS AND TWISTING HEAD!

There ARE EMBARRASSING TOYS THAT YOU ONLY PLAY WITH IN SECRET, and TOYS THAT WANT TO GET YOU IN TROUBLE.

ANCIENT VERY BABY-ISH!
FALLING APART
I AM TOO OLD BUT IT STILL WANTS TO SLEEP WITH ME!!
OH NO NOW I WILL GET KILLED FOR PUTTING ON THE BLUE INK PEN NIPPLES! THEY DON'T WASH OFF! I AM DOOMED!
SHE IS A NUDEST!
SHE SAYS TAKE MY CLOTHES OFF!!

When YOU GET A NEW TOY, YOU HOPE IT WON'T TURN OUT TO BE BORING. And IT HOPES THE SAME THING about YOU, TOO.

- 1 write the name of a toy you remember
- 2 what did it look like?
- 3 How did you play with it?
- 4 What happened to it?

THE PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFULS ARE STARTING TO GET PROPPED UP.

BITTER YETI IN THE CITY BY JASON STOUT

BITTERYETI@EARTHINK.NET

THEY'RE NOT EVEN REAL PEOPLE! THEIR PLATFORMS ARE DETERMINED BY FOCUS GROUPS, NOT PERSONAL BELIEFS. I'LL BET WITH THE RIGHT COMBINATION OF SOUND BITES AND PHOTO OPS, WE COULD MAKE VIABLE CANDIDATES OUT OF ANY SHMO'S WE FOUND ON THE STREET!

OKAY, SO, WE JUST NEED A COUPLE OF 'CANDIDATES'!

I'LL GET THE CHLOROFORM.

MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS



A recent survey found that skin whiteners are now so popular in some parts of Asia that four out of 10 women use them.

A horse is a piece of displaced rock found between the walls of a fault line.

Following the assassination of Robert Kennedy, Charlton Heston became one of several entertainers to advocate for stronger controls on gun sales. As a result, Congress passed the 1968 Gun Control Act, the most sweeping gun-control measure ever enacted into law.

Of all the various societies known to exist, those that practice polygamy outnumber those that practice monogamy.

In 1972, Jerry Lewis worked on *The Day the Clown Cried*, a film about a clown who's sent to Auschwitz after a drunken impersonation of Hitler. The film was never released.

Four out of every five animals on earth are nematode worms.

The above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, or e-mail mrpants@austinchronicle.com.

TRADE UP

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Lovers Lame
Easy Street
Shot in the Dark
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ART/DESIGN

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EMPLOYMENT Looking for a new job? Have to hire a new employee? Check out the great job opportunities in this week's *Austin Chronicle*. If you would like information on how to place an ad, call 454-5765.

125

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SALES

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- **General Maint. - PM Shift**

Apply in person Monday-Friday 8:30-5PM, 8212 Barton Club Drive, Austin, Texas 78735. Email resumes to jobs@bartoncreek.com or fax your information to 512-329-4014. Website: <http://www.bartoncreek.com>
Barton Creek offers a complete benefits package & competitive wages. EOE

BAKER We are looking for an experienced pastry baker, PT, Late afternoon shifts. Commercial bakery exp. only. Apply at Quack's Bakery, 411 East 43rd St. or email resume to: bakerymail@gmail.com, subject BAKER

BARRISTA/COUNTER SERVER Cheerful, exp. only, P/T, must be flexible and be available for weekends. High volume. Apply at Quack's Bakery @ 411 E. 43rd

BARTENDER Up to \$300/day. No experience necessary. 1-800-965-6520 x207

BARTENDER/ServerMan-or Downs Turf Club needs Mature responsible dependable adult. Must have transportation. 13hr shifts Call M/ W/Th 11-5 272-5581 ext1215.

CAKE/COOKIE DECORATOR with commercial exp at a dynamic, fast paced environment. Hours are flexible, can be FT or PT. Please email resume to bakerymail@gmail.com, subject: CAKE

COOK Dirty Martin's Hamburgers, Part-Time. 20-25 hours a week. Apply in person, M-F, 3-5PM.

CREW MEMBERS Culver's of Buda is looking for full and part-time enthusiastic crew members with good people skill. Competitive pay, flexible shifts, structured training program. Email your resume to culversbuda@yahoo.com. or call (512)923-5385.

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SERVERS Needed. Mongolian Grille Downtown, 183 North, & Round Rock. 203-4827, or Apply In Person.

WAITSTAFF
360 Uno is now hiring full-time waitstaff for the COOLEST coffee-house/ wine-bar in town!

3801 Capital of Texas N. #G100. Apply at mail@360uno.com or call 512-327-5505

WAITSTAFF
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Have fun at work and bank some cash, flexible hours. No exp. necessary. Apply for our team at 12407 N. Mopac Expy (next to HEB) or call 836-6611

WAITSTAFF Redbud Bar & Grille. West Lake/Bee Cave Rd at Walsh Tarlton. www.redbudgrille.com

145 OFFICE/CLERICAL

GOVERNMENT JOBS \$12-48/Hr. Full Benefits/Paid Training. Work available in areas like Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Wildlife, More! 1-800-320-9353 x2001. (AAN CAN)

WEBSITE Check out more great ads online! austinchronicle.com/classifieds

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VOLUNTEERS VOLUNTEER IN AFRICA Teach & AIDS outreach 14 months including training in CA. Teams start Aug & Oct & in spring 07! Fees/grants 510-637-9698 www.cctg.org

155 PROFESSIONAL

EDUCATION
Assessment Administrators Temporary Job Opportunities

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), a congressionally mandated elementary and secondary education research study has temporary, part-time opportunities for candidates who: **enjoy working in schools, are detail-oriented, can work in a team environment, have good communication skills, and have some education or research experience.**

Job assignments begin in December 2006 and January 2007 and offer competitive pay rates. Candidates must complete an FBI background security check, provide own transportation, and be able to carry 15 lb. boxes.

Please call 800-657-1958 for more information. E-mail your resume to: NAEPRecruit@westat.com, mail to: WESTAT, Attn: NAEP Field Room, 9720 Gaither Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20877, or fax to: 402-261-4314. For more information on Westat, visit www.westat.com. EOE

EMPLOYMENT Looking for a new job? Have to hire a new employee? Check out the great job opportunities in this week's *Austin Chronicle*. If you would like information on how to place an ad, call 454-5765.

160 RESEARCH STUDY

BIPOLAR
Volunteers needed with Bipolar I Disorder Who are currently experiencing a Manic or Mixed Episode

Volunteers are being sought to participate in a research study of an investigational medication being evaluated in combination with medications for the long-term maintenance of manic or mixed symptoms of Bipolar I Disorder.

To be eligible for this Clinical Research Study the subject must:

- * Be at least 18 years of age
- * Have Bipolar I Disorder
- * Have current manic or mixed symptoms

All study medication, lab work, study related treatments and doctor visits will be provided to the subject at no charge.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

512-407-8628

Larisa Schertz
Senior Adults Specialty Research
3215 Steck Ave., Suite 202
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DO YOU HAVE THE SIGNS?

- Decreased need for sleep
 - Spending too much money
 - Can't slow down
 - Racing thoughts
 - High gear for extreme periods
- Call Community Clinical Research for no obligation, free information. Medical
- Research and Clinical Trials allow people to have the opportunity to try investigational medications or treatment that would be otherwise unavailable.

SEMIN DONORS NEEDED

Fairfax Cryobank seeks college educated men 18-39 to participate in 6 month donor program. Avg. \$150 per specimen. Call today for free application or apply online at <http://www.123donate.com>.

SLEEP MEDICATION

Healthy & Getting a Good Night's Sleep?

Participate in a research study at FutureSearch Trails, where an investigational sleep medication is being evaluated. We need participants ages 21 to 50 years without any current sleep problems to take part for 2-5 weeks; one overnight stay will be required.

Compensation of up to \$440 will be given for all study-related time and travel.

For information call:

FUTURESEARCH TRAILS
512-374-0881

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(512) 323-2622

<http://www.communityclinical.com>

Supplement

MEN AND WOMEN WITH ASTHMA, ATOPIC DERMATITIS, OR ALLERGIC RHINITIS

A clinical research trial is being conducted to study the effects of a nutritional supplement on your asthma, atopic dermatitis or allergic rhinitis.

To Qualify You Must Be:

- 18 to 65 years of age
- Willing to make 4 clinic visits

Qualified Participants May Receive:

- Study-related nutritional supplement or placebo
- Study-related laboratory and physical examinations
- Financial compensation is available for time and travel

Contact us for more information
MetaClin Research
<http://www.metaclin.com>
studies@metaclin.com

(512) 732-2444

METACLIN

BACK PAGE Advertise your product or service on the Back Page! Call 454-5765 today!

CAN TEAR FAMILIES APART

- Tendency towards isolation
- Hallucinations, delusions and paranoia
- Problems with concentration
- Lack of energy and motivation

Call Community Clinical Research for no obligation, free information. Medical

Research and Clinical Trials allow people to have the opportunity to try investigational medications or treatment that would be otherwise unavailable.

(512) 323-2622

<http://www.communityclinical.com>

GENERALIZED ANXIETY DISORDER

ALWAYS WORRYING?

- Restless • Fatigued
 - Tense Muscles
 - Irritability • Poor sleep
 - Mind goes blank
- Call Community Clinical Research for no obligation, free information. Medical
- Research and Clinical Trials allow people to have the opportunity to try investigational medications or treatment that would be otherwise unavailable.

(512) 323-2622

<http://www.communityclinical.com>

DO YOU THINK YOU MAY HAVE SWIMMER'S EAR?

Swimmer's ear (otitis externa) occurs when there is an infection or inflammation of the ear canal. When water, sand, debris, or dirt gets

trapped in the ear canal it can cause an infection. A painful, swollen and red ear canal could be symptoms that you have swimmer's ear.

Benchmark Research is currently conducting a study of an investigational medication for swimmer's ear. Participants must be 12 years of age or older, and must currently be suffering from the symptoms of swimmer's ear.

Study-related office visits, study procedures, and study medication may be provided at no cost.

Compensation up to \$200 will be paid to eligible participants for their time and travel.

For More Information Contact Benchmark Research

1-800-369-2875

<http://www.benchmarkresearch.net>

BENCHMARK RESEARCH

165 RETAIL

RETAIL Obsessed with CDs, DVDs and Games?

CD Warehouse is hiring for FT/PT positions. The ideal candidate will have prior RETAIL EXP, MS OFFICE literacy, strong work ethic, & flexible schedule (esp. nights and weekends).

Apply in person at our S. Round Rock location, 2541 S. IH-35 @ Louis Henna Blvd

170 SALES MARKETING

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Sales Experience required, telemarketing experience a plus, \$7.50 p/hour to start + commissions. Paid Training, company cell phone. Musicians welcome. Maximus Entertainment 512-343-6299 www.maximustalent.com

175 SCHOOL TRAINING

TABC SELLER/SERVER CERTS. AT HOME DVD/VHS

\$35. No classroom. 24/7 phone testing. Call 452-5533

EMPLOYMENT Looking for a new job? Have to hire a new employee? Check out the great job opportunities in this week's *Austin Chronicle*. If you would like information on how to place an ad, call 454-5765.

WORK WITH THE BEST RECEIVE PAID BENEFITS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Austin's leading Comprehensive Child Development/Early Education Program is accepting applications for the following positions:

- **RESOURCES TEACHERS & TEACHER'S AIDES** High School or GED, some social services and reliable transportation
- **FOOD SERVICE WORKER** High school diploma or GED. Reliable transportation.
- **SECRETARY** high school diploma or GED. Reliable transportation, office exp. a +
- **VISITING TEACHERS** Bilingual, social service experience needed, some college preferred

Apply in person at Child Inc.: 818 E. 53rd St., Austin, TX 78751

EOE

WEBSITE Looking for something more? Check out austinchronicle.com/classifieds for even more great ads online.

Teach English in Japan!

Enthusiastic and professional individuals are invited to apply to teach English conversation to adults and children at one of our 300+ schools throughout Japan. A Bachelor's Degree and perfect command of English are required. Japanese language or teaching experience not necessary.

www.aeonet.com

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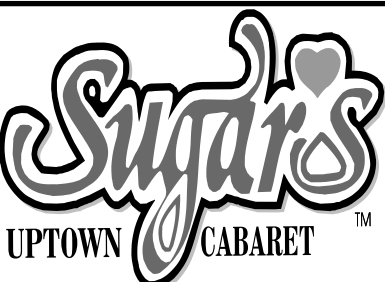


WORK WITH THE BEST RECEIVE PAID BENEFITS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Austin's leading Comprehensive Child Development/Early Education Program is accepting applications for the following positions:

- **TEACHER** Degree in EC, CD or CDA. Reliable Transportation. Some Experience Preferred
- **RESOURCES TEACHERS & TEACHER'S AIDES** High School Diploma or GED. Reliable Transportation. Some Experience Preferred
- **FOOD SERVICE WORKER** High School Diploma or GED. Reliable Transportation. Some Food Service Experience Preferred.
- **SECRETARY** High School Diploma or GED. Reliable Transportation, Office Exp. a Plus
- **VISITING TEACHERS** Bilingual, social service experience needed, some college preferred

All applicants must be at least 18 years of age. Apply in person at Evans Personnel, 2013 W. Anderson Lane, Austin, TX 78757 512-454-9561 EOE



If you have a fun loving attitude & enjoy a party atmosphere, then Sugar's is for you! Plan your summer job NOW! Training! Big \$! **SEEKING OUTGOING, ENERGETIC PEOPLE AM & PM ENTERTAINERS • WAITSTAFF FUN JOB! GREAT MONEY!**

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY **PT/FT** **FLEXIBLE SCHEDULES**
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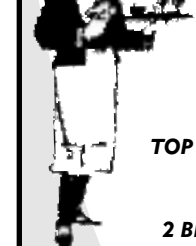
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- Laundry Attds.
- Housekeepers – AM/PM
- Kids Club Attd.
- Nail Technician
- Spa Desk Attd.
- Water Aerobics Instructor
- Massage Therapist
- Carpenter
- General Maint. – PM Shift

Apply in person Monday - Friday 8:30am-5pm, 8212 Barton Club Dr. Austin, Tx 78735.

Résumés can be e-mailed to jobs@bartoncreek.com

or fax your information to 512-329-4014.

Web site: <http://www.bartoncreek.com>

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Men and Women with asthma, atopic dermatitis, or allergic rhinitis

A clinical research trial is being conducted to study the effects of a nutritional supplement on your asthma, atopic dermatitis or allergic rhinitis.

To Qualify You Must Be:

- 18 to 65 years of age
- Willing to make 4 clinic visits

Qualified Participants May Receive:

- Study-related nutritional supplement or placebo
- Study-related laboratory and physical examinations
- Financial compensation is available for time and travel

Contact us for more information...

Phone: (512) 732-2444

studies@metaclin.com

FAX: (512) 732-2446

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Volunteers needed with Bipolar I Disorder who are currently experiencing a Manic or Mixed Episode

Volunteers are being sought to participate in a research study of an investigational medication being evaluated in combination with medications for the long-term maintenance of manic or mixed symptoms of Bipolar I Disorder.

To be eligible for this Clinical Research Study the subject must:

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- Have Bipolar I Disorder
- Have current manic or mixed symptoms

All study medications, lab work, study related treatments and doctor visits will be provided at no charge.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT

512-407-8628

Larisa Schertz, RN
Senior Adults Specialty Research
3215 Steck Ave. Suite 202
Austin, TX 78757



Do you think you may have swimmer's ear?



Swimmer's ear (otitis externa) occurs when there is an infection or inflammation of the ear canal. When water, sand, debris, or dirt gets trapped in the ear canal it can cause an infection. A painful, swollen and red ear canal could be symptoms that you have swimmer's ear.

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Compensation up to \$200 will be paid to eligible participants for their time and travel.

Contact Benchmark Research
1-800-369-2875
For More Information

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- Sad or depressed mood
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- Loss of interest in work or activities
- Difficulty in concentration
- Decrease in motivation

BIPOLAR DISORDER

Do you have the signs?

- Decreased need for sleep
- Spending too much money
- Can't slow down
- Racing thoughts
- High gear for extreme periods

SCHIZOPHRENIA

Can tear families apart.

- Tendency towards isolation
- Hallucinations, delusions and paranoia
- Problems with concentration
- Lack of energy and motivation

GENERALIZED ANXIETY DISORDER

Always worrying?

- Restless
- Fatigued
- Tense muscles
- Irritability
- Poor sleep
- Mind goes blank

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Hidden Gem, Fitness, Gated
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2 BR \$700
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416-8100 Broker

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78741
\$50 Move-In!
2/2 \$679 3/2 \$749
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ApartmentExperts.com

CENTRAL Walk to Zilker Park/Aud. Shores. Tile/stone/wood floors floors, 1bd \$675 2bd \$950. NOW. 258-8224

CENTRAL TARRYTOWN, Unique, Spacious 1/1. Ten minutes to Downtown/Town Lake, Paid Cable, \$700, 2600 Enfield Rd. 451-0414.

CENTRAL 693-7231 <http://austincool.com> Downtown elegance, city-views, hardwoods. Rooftop deck, W/D.

CENTRAL Best Deal, Eff \$469, 1-1 \$499, 2-2 \$799, water/gas paid. avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

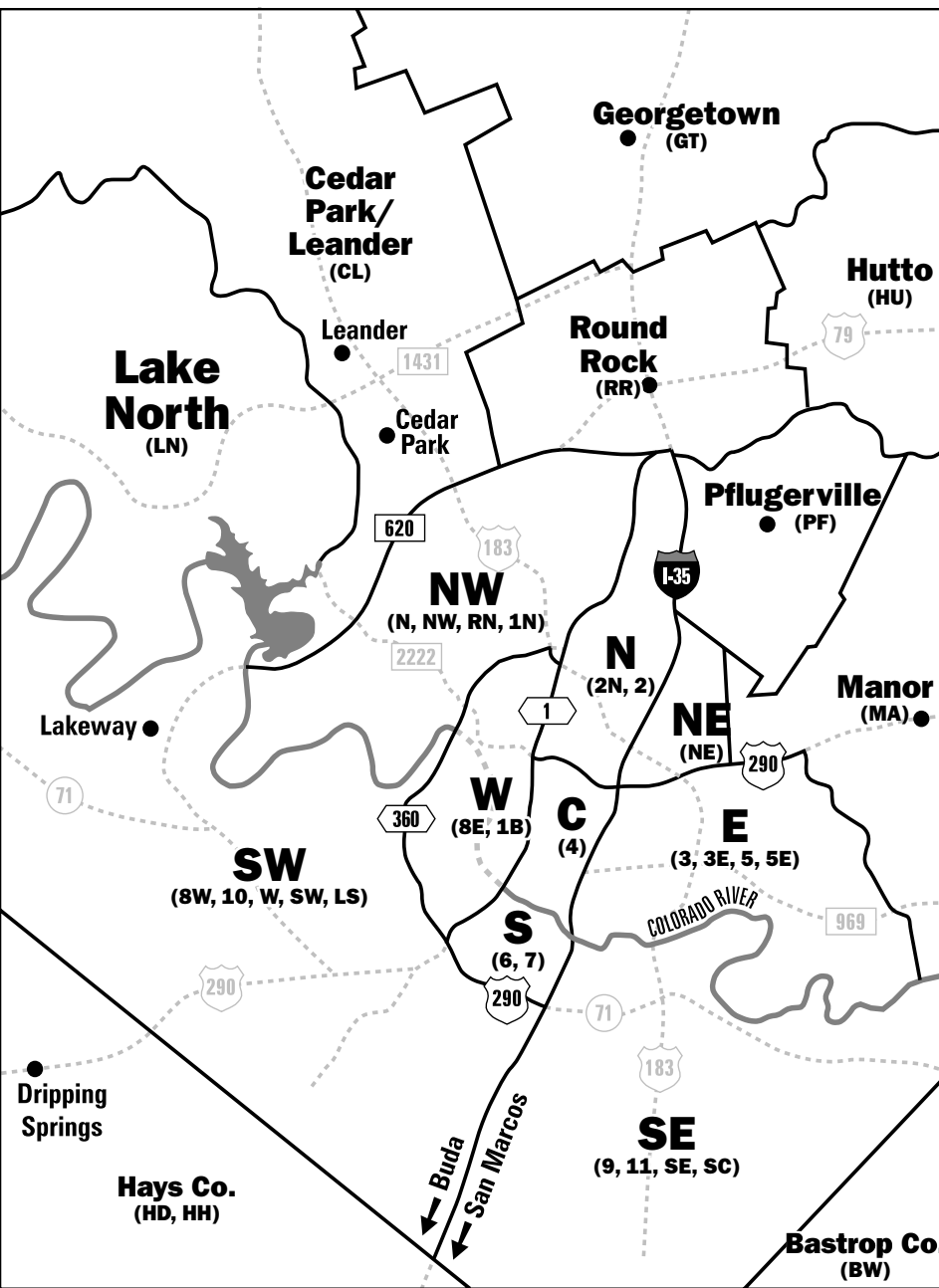
CENTRAL 78704 1,2,3,4 bedrooms- Going cheap! Need to be close to town we have properties that include condos, apartments & town homes. Ask about our instant move-in services. Tired of looking let us find the best for less. Make your First Call count 448-4800. www.FirstCallAustin.com

CENTRAL ** LAKE TRAVIS LIVING.1/1\$502, 2br\$650, 3br\$823 Call Agent 512.241.1111 lease@aptsaus.com

CENTRAL <http://austincool.com> 693-7231 South Central, walk downtown, hike/bike trail, large dogs, \$645.

CENTRAL Small/quiet community, creek, gas/trash paid, wood floor, 1 bd \$575, avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

CENTRAL/SOUTH near Riverside. \$435, \$100 deposit, free cable, UT/Metro bus service. Apartment Experts 416-8100 Broker.



LAKE NORTH \$895 1b/1b/balcony on Lake Travis! Pools/spa/gym. Move-in 8/15! Cherryl Jamail 512-731-3007

NORTH Lofts & Townhouses - 1-1 \$615 loft, 2-2.5 TH, huge windows \$740, pool, courtyard Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

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NORTH Wells Branch Bargain! 1-1 \$460 + \$200 off 1st mth, 2-2 \$685 w/d conn. www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTH **GI-NORMOUS! 2 br/2 story TH! Agent 512.241.1111 email \$665

NORTH Shoal Creek - Research 2-2 Free Cable only \$610, small community. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTH CENTRAL Near Highland mall, w/d con, 1bd \$425 plus \$200 special, 2bd \$605, TH \$685. 236-1116,

NORTH STUDIO, 440SF, \$480. Can work with ISSUES JOHN, REALTOR, 659-5339

NORTH studio, 350sf, \$380 JOHN, REALTOR 659-5339

NORTH CENTRAL 1 Mo. Free, w/d con, sunrooms, eff \$449, 1-1 \$517, 2-2 \$714, TH \$738. 236-0002.

NORTH 1/1, 500SF, \$480 JOHN, REALTOR 659-5339

NORTH Super Deal Wells Branch 1-1 from \$455, 2-2 from \$675 Save \$ Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

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NORTH Old English Charm 1-1 \$485 2 bedroom from \$580.Pool, fitness center, gas cooking, heating, hot water paid. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTH \$200 off Wooded property, gas paid, 1bd \$480, 2bd \$655. 236-0002. avignonrealty.com

NORTH Free Cable and Gas! \$99 deposit. Gigantic 1-1 \$595, 2 bedroom \$750 www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

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2/1.5 Townhouse \$725

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NORTH \$125 MOVE IN! W/D INCL \$499, 2br \$725, Agent 512.241.1111 email lease@aptsaus.com

NORTH 1/1, 672SF, \$535 W/D CON. JOHN, REALTOR, 659-5339

NORTH ** DREAM BIG! Studio \$399, 1/1 \$575, 2 BR TH \$759. Agent 512.241.1111 lease@aptsaus.com

NORTH 1/1 700SF, \$525
CAN WORK WITH ISSUES
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NORTH ACC Northridge Best Deal. 1-1 \$470 2-2 from \$690. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent.

NORTH 1 month free, low deposit/app fees, w/d incld, pool, Eff \$525, 1bd \$555, 2bd \$740. 236-0002.

NORTH PERFECT ROOMMATE floorplan. 2 matched bedrooms with living room and kitchen between. Basketball/tennis courts, 2 pools and more. \$980. 1 br \$705. A+ 231-1400, Agent

NORTH 6-12 wks Free, newly remodeled, gas paid, 2bd \$685. Chris 236-1116, avignonrealty.com.

NORTH 2/2, 968SF, \$765, W/D CONN. HUGE LIVING ROOM, BIG KITCHEN. CALL JOHN, REALTOR, 659-5339

NORTH 2/2, 800SF, \$695
CAN WORK WITH ISSUES
JOHN, REALTOR, 659-5339

NORTH Bad Credit Okay 1-1 \$455, 2BR \$600, 3BR \$700 Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent.

NORTH BIG & CHEAP, priced right. Large floplans, huge living rooms, gas cooking, 10 minutes to downtown. 1 br \$485, 2 br \$580. A+, 231-1400, Broker

NORTH RIVERWALK STYLE POOL. Gazebos like gym, tiled countertops, fireplace, gated. Flats, lofts & townhomes. 1 br \$520, 2 br \$745. A+, 231-1400, Broker

NORTH TOWN HOME 2/1.5 949sqft for \$725, W/D CONN CALL JOHN, 659-5339, AGENT

NORTH Gas paid, fitness ctr, w/d con, 1bd \$465, avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

NORTH SQUEEZE YOUR DOLLARS for this 1200+ square foot townhome with screened in porch. 2 bedroom, 2.5 baths!! Huge walk in closets, corner fireplace, W/D connections, lots of trees, pool. A+, 231-1400, Agent

NORTH 1/1. 685SF \$620, W/D CONN. LOTS OF AMENITIES. CALL JOHN, REALTOR, 657-5339

NORTH Awesome Value 1-1 676 sqft. with washer/dryer connections Only \$475 1036 sqft. 2-2 from \$665. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTH Hug A Tree. Property loaded with trees, private park, efficiency \$425, \$435 pergo floors. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent.

NORTH CABLE INCLUDED!! Small courtyard community!! Awesome location near Mopac. Big closets!! 2 br \$610, 1 br \$525. A+, 231-1400 Agent

NORTH AUSTIN:

- Studio. \$389. Townhome 2-2 \$625 month W/D conns. Fireplace. Vaulted Ceiling.
- 1-1 \$435 W/D Connection.
- 1-1 \$410 UT Bus route
- 2 BD \$575 1 month free

NORTHWEST

- 1-1 \$509
- Huge 2-2, 1314 S.F \$729
- 1-1 \$520 UT Bus Route

Bad Credit? Broken Leases? Felonies? Big Dogs? OK!
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NORTHWEST Edgecliff, rare large 1/1 w/carport, covered deck, custom paint, wet bar, 2 dining, vaulted/beamed ceilings, custom tile throughout, tile counters, skylight, \$850. Call MRG (512) 443-2526.

NORTHWEST Arboretum Townhouse 2-2 \$759 large, tall ceilings, great for roommate. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTHWEST Arboretum, daily rent specials, 1bd \$489, 2 bd \$657 236-0002. Avignonrealty.com

NORTHWEST GARAGES INCLUDED!! Near the 360 Bridge!! Condo quality, gated, small community tucked into the hillside. Workout room, pool. 1 br \$775, 2 br \$1025. A+, 231-1400 Broker

NORTHWEST \$639 Lake Austin Condo! 2-1 \$835 W/D conn. and covered parking included. www.apartmentlocating.com

NORTHWEST Remodeled and Nice! 1st month free! New carpet, wood, new cabinets, starts 1-1 \$512, 2-2 \$740 Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTHWEST Oversized TH's and Flats! \$440, 2/2 \$699, 3-3 \$759 www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTHWEST \$300 off look & lease special, Arboretum, 1bd \$525, 2bd \$715, Chris 236-1116, avignonrealty.com.

NORTHWEST Lake Creek Townhomes 1-1.5 \$549, 2-1.5 \$659. 3-2.5 \$799 Lots of Parks, hike and bike trail, pool. Apartment Experts 339-4411 agent.

NORTHWEST Give your Big Dog a great new home! 1/1 \$565, 2 bedroom \$648! www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTHWEST Pool/Spa, Playground, picnic areas, 1 bdrm \$489, 2 bdrm \$669, 3 bdrm \$1200 Call Chris Bee, agent 512-293-7737 or visit www.apartmentsfirst.com

NORTHWEST Breed Alert! Any breed welcome! 1-1 \$565, 2 bedroom \$648, W/D connections and Workout facility. www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTHWEST \$0 deposit, 2 wks free, fitness ctr, w/d con, 1bd \$515, 2bd \$700 236-0002.

NORTHWEST ANY BREED FRIENDLY BIG DOG!! With pet interview!! Condo quality, patios, trees, pool. 1 br \$575, 2 br \$675. A+, 231-1400 Agent

NORTHWEST Arboretum 1 Month Free. 1-1 from \$515 Large 2-2 \$700 Washer/ Dryer connections, fitness center, pool, and tennis Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTHWEST LOW PRICES, spacious floorplans. Small, well kept community between Arboretum and Lakeline!! W/D connections, large closets, microwave, icemaker. 1 br \$549, 2 br \$639. A+, 231-1400 Agent

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Large 2/2 1/2 4-plex 2 masters, tile, utility room, \$675

SOUTH

Remodeled 2/2 duplex w/ carport, corner fireplace, tile, cathedral ceilings. \$750

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Austin Home News

by Dee Copeland

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GET THE FACTS

You have finally found the home that is right for you, but you have some questions about the structure and condition of the home. A home inspection is the best way to get answers to your questions. There are companies that specialize in inspecting new and used homes. Be sure your purchase contract includes a contingency allowing enough time to have the property inspected before the transaction is completed.

It is wise to have a home inspection, even if the house is new or everything appears to be in perfect condition. The inspector can provide important information about the house. Where are the gas and water shut-off valves? How do the circuit breakers operate? What type of routine maintenance should be done for each system? The inspector's fee is an investment that can save you money later!

When you are ready to engage a professional inspector, look for a member of ASHI, the American Society of Home Inspectors.

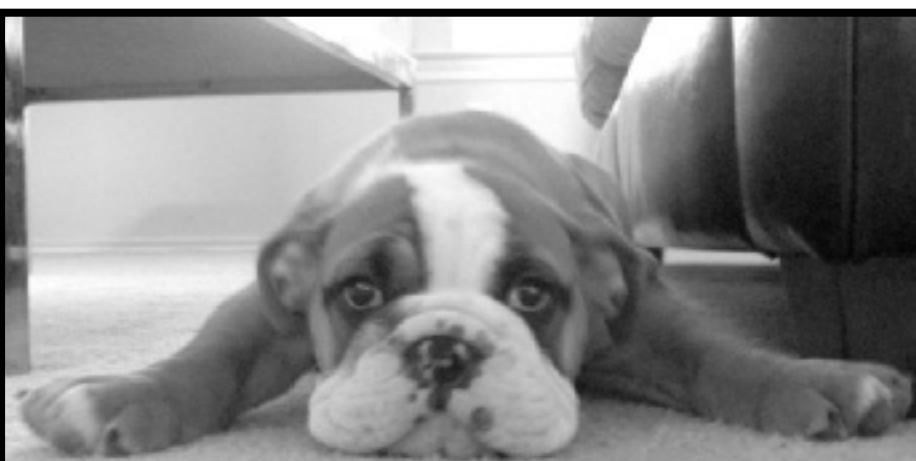
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PROPERTIES OF THE WEEK!

CENTRAL

- 78704 studio, w/d included, private porch, \$526!
- Hidden small community behind Continental Club off Congress. Huge 1 bedroom, \$800 ABP! Rare find!
- Historic Travis Heights: 1 bedroom \$540, 2 bedroom, \$750, most bills paid, huge private deck!
- On Zilker Park Greenbelt, hidden pet-friendly community, 1 bedroom \$709, 2 bdrm \$810, W/D included!
- Heavily wooded hilltop 1 bedroom, huge 16 ft. private porch, oversized garden tub, \$520, utilities paid!
- On SoCo restaurant, shopping district, and Town Lake. Studio flat \$500, 1 bedroom \$725, 2 bedroom \$825, walk to everything! No need for a car!
- 4th and Colorado, warehouse district flats, walk to nightlife! Starting at \$1400.

SOUTH CENTRAL

- Raw modern warehouse-style apartments. Concrete floors, musician/artist friendly. 2 bedroom \$739, 5 bedroom \$1369.
- Zilker Park on Hike & Bike Trail. Washer/Dryer included, 1 bedroom, \$719. 2 bedroom, \$810 (large deck). 50ft. from entrance to trail.
- On Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail, 1 bedroom \$530, 2 bedroom \$665. Ceramic tile and free cable!
- On Congress, hidden community, 1 bedroom \$540, 2 bedroom flat \$699, walk to everything!



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NORTHWEST Lost In Space Huge Townhomes 1350 sqft. 2-2.5 \$760, 1600 sqft. 3-3 \$825 Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

NORTHWEST TOWNHOMES, W/D included. Free covered parking, pool, fitness, business center, room to roam!! 1 br \$562, 2 br \$662, 3 br \$839. A+, 231-1400, Broker

NORTHWEST EASY CREDIT, low up front costs. Quick move in!!! Spacious 1 bdrm \$ 509, 2 bdrm \$679.

A+, 231-1400, Agent

NORTHWEST No Deposit on Northwest Luxury!! Huge 1-1 \$575, 2-2 \$775. Amenities galore! www.apartmentlocating.com 231-9888

NORTHWEST ** FREE MAY. \$620, 1/2,3s available 512.241.1111 Agent lease@aptsaus.com

ROUND ROCK Round Rock Duplex, nice duplex community. Close to Dell only \$840. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

ROUND ROCK 1st Month Free! 2-2 \$635, small community. Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

SOUTH 1/2 MONTH FREE! Huge patios, great views, some bills paid, eff. from \$435, 1BR from \$505, 2BR from \$650, 567-4276, LESA http://www.gimme-shelterlocators.com

SOUTH Near SE shuttle, resort style pool + amenities, W/D, free cable + HBO. \$325+, Apartment Experts 416-8100 Broker.

SOUTH http://austincool.com 693-7231 Minutes to downtown, 858sqft, W/D, large balcony/closets, \$660, pets ok.

SOUTH
TOWN LAKE
HIKE & BIKE
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Completely remodeled with ceramic tile upgrades, modern appliances and free cable! Huge 1BDRM... \$530!

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SOUTH 1 BR \$459, \$99 Deposit, pool, tennis, UT Shuttle/Metro Bus. Apt. Experts 416-8100 Broker.

SOUTH 1-1 771 sf. \$572, Pool, Water Pd, Gated, Easy access to Hwy, 657-2314 yorkapartmenlocators.com

SOUTH 1-1, \$585, close to shopping, Hwy, Greenbelt and downtown. 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

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SOUTH Free Wireless Internet! Eff., 1 BR \$515, 1/2 month FREE rent, 1 yr. lease, Metro bus. Apt. Experts 416-8100 Broker.

SOUTH All Bills Paid (no Elec) Yes Cable! 1bed \$500 & up 2bed \$630 to \$800 3bed \$800 & up

\$100 Rebate after move in Call Me! Free App fee @ any property call me!

Call 785-DRIS (3747) www.RentDris.com



SOUTH SOCO LIVING! Walk to 1st Thursday! \$1000+ Agent 512.241.1111 email lease@aptsaus.com

SOUTH \$200 off special! Water/gas/cable paid, 1bd \$535, 2bd \$645, avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

SOUTH 2-1's, \$650, 2-2s \$725, \$199 covers dep, app, & admin fee. 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTH Sexy 6th Street Lofts \$595 Wood floors

Call 785-DRIS www.RentDris.com



SOUTH CENTRAL 1/1 loft. Walk to St. Eds! Quiet street, \$525. Call MRG (512) 443-2526.

SOUTH CENTRAL BIG DOG friendly apartments right behind Zilker Park and Barton Creek Hike and Bike Trails. HUGE private deck. 1 bedroom \$669, 2 bedroom \$760, http://www.austindowntownliving.com Call Team Leasing (512) 416-8333.

SOUTH SoCo. Flats- \$645, Low dep. Pets ok. Call 694-3899 www.urbanAustinliving.com

SOUTH 1/1, safe area, country living close in! \$395/mth. Call 282-8575, leave message.

SOUTH Why pay rent? When you may be able to own a home instead? You can own a home - 3 bedroom, 2 baths, and 2 car garage worth \$150,000 and pay about the same as a 2 bedroom apartment! Get more for your money act now while interest rates are still low! Call Eddie Reynolds today: 512-921-9100

SOUTH 2-1 \$664, 2-2 \$700, Free WDs, Pool, easy access to Hwy. Richard 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTH \$129 total move-in, pool, fitness ctr, 1bd \$515, 2bd \$689, avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

SOUTH http://austincool.com 693-7231 Huge Town Lake 2/2, large bedrooms/closets, easy dwnwtwn access, \$665.

SOUTH http://austincool.com 693-7231 Laid-back artisan hangout, big dogs okay! 2BD Campbell's Hole, W/D, \$725.

SOUTH 1-1, 653 sf \$544, 2-2 985 sf \$652, UT shuttle, pool, big dogs OK, 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTH 1st Month FREE! 1,300+ sqft 3/2 duplex South of Town Lake on UT shuttle. FP W/D conn, pets negot. \$1,100. 789-1482

SOUTH CENTRAL 1 Mo. Free, Lakefront, downtown, 1bd \$645, 2bd \$775. Chris 236-1116, avignonrealty.com.

SOUTH CENTRAL Low deposit/app fees, spacious, 1-1 \$555, 2-2 \$700. avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

SOUTH Art deco, concrete floors, Jacuzzi bathtubs, 1bd \$569, 2bd \$689, Chris 236-1116 avignonrealty.com

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Faux wood floors, New carpet and paint Spacious layouts Tree filled Courtyard
FREE CABLE
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SOUTH http://austincool.com 693-7231 Wooded parklike earthy setting, large decks, big dogs ok! 2/1, \$685.

SOUTH CENTRAL Travis Heights, FREE cable, 2bd \$925. avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

SOUTH http://austincool.com 693-7231 Total urban living experience. Stained concrete flrs, art deco, W/D, 2/1 \$739.

SOUTH 1-1 \$480, 2-2 \$615, UT Shuttle, water paid, Free Wireless Internet 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST 1/1, 656sf, \$585, w/d conn. Aug. 10th, JOHN, REALTOR 659-5339

SOUTHWEST Greenbelt views, w/d incld, 1-1 \$740, 2-2 \$960. 236-0002. avignonrealty.com

SOUTHEAST \$425- Huge 1B in 4 BD 2006 custom built house (2900 sq ft) available August, off I 3-5 (15 mins from UT/Texas State)! 6 months lease min; 2.5 baths; 2 stories; separate game room, dining, study, living room, breakfast, washer/dryer, kitchen area; 2 car garage; back yard; free pool access; wireless/cable/ central air; basketball court; contact: becky_ta@yahoo.com or call me at 415.260.3697

SOUTHEAST Beautiful 2-2s, \$679 Modern Kitchens & Large BTHs, Pool, 657-2314, yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHWEST Large 1-1, \$539, WD, Concrete FLS, Pool, UT shuttle. 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST Large 1-1's, 725 sf. \$539. Water, Gas, Trash Paid. Pool. 657-2314, yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST 1-1, \$480, 2-1, \$599, 2-2, \$630, 1st mth rent: \$99! Most bills Pd. 657-2314 yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST Large 1-1, \$530, WD conns. Water Paid. Pool, UT Shuttle. 657-2314, yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST Large 2-2.5, \$800, Townhome, WD, fenced yard, 657-2314

yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHEAST Large 2-2, \$699, WD Conns, UT shuttle, Big kitchen. 657-2314

yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHWEST Peaceful, woody, 2-1 townhome, POOL, 2 decks, washer dryer, all appliances, no smokers or pets.\$850 p/mo. 512-288-2379 or 830-377-0183

SOUTHWEST Near downtown/park/mall, 1bd \$540, 2bd \$640 plus \$250 off 1st mo. rent. Chris 236-1116

SOUTHWEST Greenbelt views, w/d incld, 1-1 \$740, 2-2 \$960. 236-0002. avignonrealty.com

SOUTHWEST Near park/downtown, pet ok, 1bd \$690, 2-2 \$1030, 2-1 \$997, avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

SOUTHWEST \$0 deposit, fitness ctr, shops, w/d conn, eff \$655, 1bd \$760, 2bd \$895, 3bd \$906. 236-0002.

SOUTHWEST 1-1, \$640, 2-2, \$768, lap pool, sand V'ball, easy access hwy. 657-2314, yorkapartmentlocators.com

SOUTHWEST 1 month FREE, 1 bdrm \$580, 2 bdrm \$630, 3 bdrm \$944, pool, Mopac access Call Chris Bee, agent 512-293-7737 or visit www.apartmentsfirst.com

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WEST 1-1 condo in Arcadia (NW Hills area) only \$750. New Washer/Dryer. Excellent condition! Private, covered parking. See at AustinRealty4U.com Call Realtor 422-0007.

WEST **360 HIKE AND BIKE! 1/1 \$670, 2BR\$830 Agent Call 512.241.1111 email lease@aptsaus.com

WEST Overlook Lake Austin - Nature preserve, breathtaking custom finish 1-1 \$875, 2-2 \$1330 Apartment Experts 339-4411 Agent

220
DUPLEX/HOUSES

CEDAR PARK 3BD/2.5BTH, 2500 sq. ft., huge master bedroom, close to schools, new carpet. \$1145/mth. Agent. 771-9300

CENTRAL 400 E. 33rd Street, 2/1, North of UT Campus, Washer/Dryer, Covered Patio, Fenced Yard, Pets Welcome.408-521-5900

CENTRAL North Hyde Park - Cute 2/1 w/ bonus room, all appliances, CA/CH, fenced yard, 1 covered parking, W/D con., outside storage room. Block from intramural fields and UT bus lines. Small pets negotiable. \$895. 5102. Leralyn, Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, matthewsproperties@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Nice updated 3/2, near woods, Sallitio, fenced yard, \$995. 4703 Creekwood near E 51st Owr/Ag933-1311

CENTRAL 400 E. 33rd Street. 2/1, North of UT Campus, Washer/Dryer, Coeverd PPatio, Fenced yard, Pets Welcome. Avail 8/15/06. 408-521-5900

CENTRAL Off Enfield very retro - unique 2/1 4-plex built around private courtyard, Satilla tile throughout, fireplace, CA/CH, gas/water paid, quiet neighbors, pet friendly! NO W/D connections. \$950. 1603 Woodlawn. Matthews Properties 454-0099, 731-6799, matthewsproperties@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Hardwood floors. New appliances. High efficiency CA/ CH. Utility room (washer/ dryer connections). Large backyard. Close to downtown/ UT area. Great park across street. Perfect for small family & professionals. Available 8/1. \$1,195/mo + dep. Ref requested. 203-2629

CENTRAL Crestview/ Brentwood Cottage \$1500 (obo) 2/1 hrdws,Ig yard, stainless appliances,granite. Updated. Pets OK. Call 512.784.8757

CENTRAL Burmaster/Anderson Mill, 3/2, Dplx. \$795/mo. \$700 dep. Scowden Properties, Realtor. 255-6181

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516 Sunny Lane
Area 6, MLS#3708581, 3 BR/2.5 B, 2,016 sq. ft., \$525,000. Luxurious remodel in Travis Heights with views of downtown and Town Lake! This home boasts travertine and wood flooring, granite counters, stainless appliances and beautifully updated bathrooms.
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1203 W 22 1/2 St. Precious 1922 Craftsman Style home, 3-2 with rare wrap-around porch and backyard studio (could be converted to apt). Refinished wood floors. Close to UT, downtown, Whole Foods, Central Mkt., hospital! Only \$499,900! Floorplan available. See at **mywestaustin.com** or open house Saturday and Sunday! Larry Shumake, CRS 422-0007

1307 San Bernard
Area 5, MLS#1948014, 2 BR/2.5 B, 1,880 sq. ft., \$339,000. Enjoy panoramic views in Central East Austin. This newly constructed urban home boasts an open layout, high ceilings, private patio, stained concrete and wood floors and a gourmet kitchen. This home is less than one mile from Downtown, State Capitol, UT Austin & Town Lake. Virtual tour at **WWW.CRISTINAVALDES.COM**
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5912 Sunshine Drive Updated Crestview Area 2, Classic 50's home w/Hardwoods, Stainless Kitchen, Granite counters, Formal dining, recent redo top to bottom. 3BR/1BA, carport, quiet cul-de-sac. **MLS#1762074**

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\$275,000 512-825-4663

CENTRAL 5505 Link, Quaint 1950 2/1 house, attached garage, great style, hrwds, laundry room, near N Austin 135/ Lamar/ 290, \$1395 474-1470 Brad@beckandco.com Beck & Co.

CENTRAL 607 West 29 1/2 St. - 1/1 house, fenced yard, pets allowed. Ideal for student living, avail 8/1/06. 408-521-5900

CENTRAL
Properties for Lease
• 3213 Liberty
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• 2409 Bryan
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CENTRAL FALL SPECIAL 4/2.5 house, Near campus, \$1400, No pets, Great for roomates! 636-2675

CENTRAL 4712 Dewep efficiencies from \$450 all utilities paid except electric, laundry on site available now. 1914 B Cullen Large 1-1 ceramic tile throughout, laundry on site. All bills paid \$775, avail. now. 658-9493 www.cbmanagement.com

CENTRAL EANES 3-2 off Bee Caves & Walsh Tarlton. Formal lvg. Family room w/fireplace. Available Now, \$1650. The Taylor Company at 512-481-8600 ext. 217

CENTRAL Tarrytown - gigantic 1/1's in 4-plex for September, hardwoods, large common yard area for gardens or just relaxing under the trees, windows everywhere, large kitchen, NO W/D connections, window a/c's. Cats welcome - NO dogs! \$775. 2304 Enfield. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, matthewsproperties@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Great downtown historic Brazos Loft, 2nd story corner with balcony featuring large windows, brick walls, mesquite floors, high wood ceilings, walk-in closet, granite kitchen with pantry. Corporate furnished loft in the heart of downtown. Including fitness center & secure parking Call 713-256-9293 for appt. ghyatt@swb.net

CENTRAL 5204 Marymount, 4/2 w/nice shady yard; near Manor/51st; recent remodel (paint, carpet, cabinets, counters, etc) \$1195/mo. HomeSource 472-HOME. www.austinhomesource.com

CENTRAL West Campus Duplex, 3-1 \$1600, 4-2 \$2400, wood floors, spacious, avig-nonrealty.com, 236-0002.

CENTRAL 1 of unique rental cottages, on MT Bonnell. Surrounded by undeveloped acreage, loft + 1 bdrm, CACH, pets ok, 996-9959

CENTRAL
EANES PROPERTIES
5514 Joe Sayers Ave. 3 Bedroom, 1.5 Bath home. Large backyard. Updated. \$1500 month.

NORTH
8115-A Ceberry Duplex in great location off Mopac and Spicewood Springs. 3 Bedroom, 1.5 bath. Large fenced yard. 1 car garage. \$1000 month.

SOUTH
• 3506 Purple Heron 1 Story house. Remodel in process with wood & tile flooring, paint, stainless appliances & granite. \$2450 mth. 4 BDs, 2 bath. Eanes schools

• 1105 Hindon Ct. - 3 BD, 2.5 BTHs, 2 story home. Huge backyard, cul-de-sac. off of Slaughter. \$1400/mth

Look under Property for Lease at http://www.EanesProperties.com for photos
263-7333 or 293-0276

CENTRAL N. Allendale. Charming, spacious, 3-2-2 \$1150. High Ceil, parquet flrs all appliances, deck, trees, fenced, 2 liv. Avail 8/6 512-619-0100

CENTRAL TARRYTOWN - 3/1.5 House, Remodeled Kitchen w/ Breakfast Nook, Wood Floors, W/D Con. 2 Car Garage. Lots of windows. 2101 Indian Trail. 451-0414

CENTRAL Large 4 bedroom rooming plan house. Between Red River & Duval. 4br/2ba living/dining room w/ washer dryer connections. \$2200 + deposit. Monarch Management 847-8894

CENTRAL 1912-B Fairlawn Ln, 78704, 2/1, CACH, dishwasher, WD conn. No smokers. \$800 328-4808

CENTRAL Hyde Park - 1037 East 43rd Spacious 3/1 House w/ hardwoods, CACH, Fenced yard, pets okay \$1295. Lizanne, Agent, 608-2428

CENTRAL Hyde Park - Spacious 2/1, all appliances, CA/CH, large patio area, covered parking, W/D connections, large bedrooms, stained concrete floors, quiet neighbors. Small pets negotiable. \$950. 705-A E. 45th (between Red River & Duval). Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, matthewsproperties@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Why pay rent? When you may be able to own a home instead? You can own a home - 3 bedroom, 2 baths, and 2 car garage worth \$150,000 and pay about the same as a 2 bedroom apartment! Get more for your money act now while interest rates are still low! Call Eddie Reynolds today: 512-921-9100

CENTRAL Westlake 1/1, new everything, maple cabinets, tile, W/D conn. shady yard, \$750 + E. For quiet person 850 C Forest View. 694-7617

CENTRAL Vintage Houses and Apartments in Central Austin for rent. See them at www.barkleyhouses.com.

CENTRAL 2905 Rio Grande, Close to Campus, Washer/Dryer Inc., Hardwood FRS, New Paint, Fenced Yard, Pets Allowed, avail 8/15/06. 408-521-5900

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EAST Cute 3/1 house. CACH, tile, fireplace, w/d, cov. patio, lrg yard. Avail Aug 1. \$1200/mth. Call JJ 512-844-6818.

EAST Adorable, Cozy 1/1 Cottage on cul-de-sac surrounded by oaks. Minutes from Downtown & UT. Special price for first 3 months. 1508 Robert Weaver.

Hyde Park - Cozy 1 Br Apt. w/ large, private patio. CACH. Lots of closet space. Paid Water. 450 st. 4205 Speedway. \$575. 451-0414.

EAST 2/2.5/1 \$875. Nice yard. Min from DT & UT. W/D hook up. Dogs Neg. No cats! Call Shannon for appt. 228-4940

EAST/CENTRAL, 3/2, CACH, completely renovated with all new appliances including W/D. 2 miles to DWTN/UT. Avail 8/12. \$1050/mth. 748-5743

EAST 14514 Deaf Smith Blvd. -- East Austin/ Austin's Colony Home for Rent, 3 br, 2 bath, refrigerator, w/d. Available Immediately.

No pets. Call Lynn 512-236-0223

KYLE
• 219 Winter St. -2005 Built house in Four Seasons 1 Story 3 BD, 2 Baths, fenced yard. \$1195 month.

Look under Property for Lease at http://www.EanesProperties.com for photos
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LAKE TRAVIS Spacious comfortable old family home on 2769. 1650 sq. ft. CACH, plus 1000 ft. porch & deck. By Volente Beach Club. Lake access. \$1125 512-477-8925

LLANO, TX FSBO Llano C.L. 38 Lots - 5 Acres. Part fence. Well, City wtr&swr New Cottage, View, Horses etc. OK! \$170K OBO. Dave 512-680-0016

NORTH 504 Jan Court, 4/2, large living area, covered PORCH in back, WD connect, \$1050 474-1470 Brad@beckandco.com Beck & Co.

NORTH Lakeway Living 424 Sailmaster Spacious 3/2 duplex. Huge fenced yard, garage. Available now! \$850 Agent / Lizzane 608-2428

NORTH 3602 B SUMMIT BEND, 2/2, \$895, quiet neighborhood, near Spicewood Springs, 474-1470 Brad@beckandco.com Beck & Co.

NORTH 2-2.5 dplx off Northland & Shoal Creek. Fireplace. All appliances. Available Now. \$1100. Call The Taylor Company 512-481-8600 ext. 217

NORTHWEST Cedar Park 3/2.5 Immaculate 3,000 sqft. Fenced yard, No smoking 2020 Continental Pass \$1350p/month 239-825-3904

NORTHWEST *Round Rock ISD* Quiet Road, 4-2.5-2-2, 2100 sq ft with deck & shed. Zoned AC. 8905 Bridgewood Trail (near 183/620). No smokers. Available now. \$1300/mo. 258-5927.

ROUND ROCK Good Neighborhood. Beautiful 3/2, 2026 sqft Home. \$1195. No Pets. Ken 762-3519, 246-2796

ROUND ROCK all 2/1 dplx. 1 car garage, all appliances, W/D conn. fenced yard, \$725. Available Now. Call The Taylor Company. 512-481-8600 ext. 217

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ROUND ROCK 3/2 Houses \$850-\$1500. Call Scowden Properties, Realtor 255-6181

SOUTH 4506 S. 2nd \$950-\$500 Sec. Deposit 3/1 CACH, Fresh paint, Ceramic tile throughout. AGT Janect 441-9900

SOUTH 2-1 dplx. on Leah Cove. W/D conn. Avail. Sept. \$575. Call Taylor Company at 512-481-8600 ext. 217

SOUTH 11104 Midbury, \$1345/mo. \$1200 dep. 2479 sqft. 3 bdr, 2 lvg, 2.5 bath, 2 car garage, privacy fence, \$35 app. fee, Call Terry Parr, Realtor 789-8064

SOUTH 5113 Ponciana, 3/2 house, 1 car garage, \$995. 474-1470 Brad@beckandco.com Beck & Co.

SOUTH 9500 Bear Paw unit B, Near Airport, 2/1 duplex with 1 car garage, vaulted ceilings, FP in living room, small back yard, \$705 474-1470 Brad@beckandco.com Beck & Co.

SOUTH CENTRAL 1906 B WOODLAND, 2/1.5, \$925, 2 story, easy commute to UT or dwntwn, WD conn, deck off master bdrm, 2 living rooms, FP in back, 474-1470 Brad@beckandco.com Beck & Co.

SOUTH CENTRAL 1930's 2/1 house. Hardwood floors, window units, as-is, \$675. Call MRG (512) 443-2526.

SOUTH 3/2/2 duplex, peaceful, serene, 3 wooded acres, hardwoods/tile flrs., W/D, enjoy wildlife from deck. No smokers. \$1150/mo. 845-6910

SOUTHWEST Like new home in Bauerle Ranch (near Manchaca/ Slaughter) Dramatic Vaulted Ceiling in LR! 3-2.5 Master down (Garden Tub/ Sep. Shower), REF, W/D, Garage Door Opener, Sprinkler Sys., Covered Patio, Faux wood blinds. 2708 Blake St., \$1,550 Call 300-9703, Broker

SOUTHWEST Private, 1050' unfenced woodland duplex, 2-2.5-1. W/D hookups, fireplace, fans, porches, new garage with extra storage. Prefer Tourist renters. Small pets OK \$850.00. 288-3267, 423-4798

SOUTHWEST Private, 1050' unfenced woodland duplex, 2-2.5-1. W/D hookups, fireplace, fans, porches, new garage with extra storage. Prefer Tourist renters. Small pets OK \$850.00. 288-3267, 423-4798

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SOUTH Great location! SoCo Retail Storefront, 3800 S. Congress, 1500 sq. ft. office, bath, parking. 512.443.9224 or 1800/mo.

SOUTH SOCO large studio, \$385. Restroom, window, AC, great loc. near Ruta Maya 24hr access. Min, 6 mo. lease. 443.9224, No Live-in.

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CENTRAL Need a ROOMMATE Fast? Austin's #1 ROOMMATE SERVICE has 1000's of listings. WWW.ROOMMATEXPRESS.COM. 800-487-8050

CENTRAL Room for rent. S.Austin house, central loc. Nice yards, gardens. Vegan, love of country music. No alcohol, no smoking. \$500, ABR, 445-7972.

CENTRAL room in 3-room house on willow. solid people, solid house. call me, fielding, at 636-5455, or email efbax@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Single woman would like to rent nice room with bath in house with yard, washer/dryer. Prefer long-term, mature, healthy household. Cissy, eastxruddog@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Apartment to share near intermural field. Rent starts at \$325. Utilities included, wireless internet and phone. Live/work spaces for artist-studio or home-office. Damon: 512-300-3055

CENTRAL Great condo in a great neighborhood-all I need is a great roommate! Ages 28-45, no slobs, no smokers, no dogs. 825-7077

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EAST HouseShare Avail Now. Central, 12x15 bedroom, creek, 3000sqft, 1/2 acre fenced, priv bath, bamboo floors \$600 fletcheracassie@yahoo.com

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NORTHWEST Non-smoking, G/L, professional needed to share 3/3 house with a fenced yard and pool, N. Austin. Dog and cat OK \$500 plus bills. m.pyron@mail.uhns.utexas.edu

ROUND ROCK 620W Good Neighborhd, \$450 ABPW/D, DishNwk & Internet. No Pets/Smoke. Ken, 31 asian 762-3519 kennethm118@yahoo.com

ROUND ROCK 1-room, pool, hot tub. Cool part time dad Call J at 512-751-6444

SOUTH Mature, employed, person(s) for great 2 rooms (1 very lg), pvt entrance, pvt bath, W/D, tastefully furnished, nice fenced yard w/ trees and patio. All bills paid. Share Kitchen. \$580 for (1), \$610 for (2) Avail 8/1 prox. 779-6101

SOUTH You are looking For a room? 1000s of rooms & roommates. From \$200/Mo www.easyyroommate.com

SOUTHEAST Looking for a laid back, but responsible college aged roommate, to share new house. 3 common areas, wireless, cable, washer/dryer, covered patio, pool table, and hot tub. Must be able to pay rent on time and sign lease. benjmund@mail.utexas.edu

SOUTHEAST \$400 All Bills Paid. New home. 3bedroom/1 bath. Please be a student or otherwise responsible. call 512-569-8786 for details.

SOUTHWEST Roommate needed August 1 for 2 br 2 bath apt. in Oak Hill. Large closet, separate bath, fireplace, cable & wireless hookups, pool, laundry, basketball court, \$365 a month plus 1/2 bills. Call 422-5595.

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235 ROOMMATES

BASTROP Jazzy home on corner, 1-acre lot, Custom features include Crown Mold, Arched Entryways, Coffered Ceilings, Ceramic Tile Floors, Windows Galore. 3 Sides Masonry, Incredible Landscape, Deck, Covered Back Porch, & Practice Golf Tee Box. 3 Bed, 2 Bath, Breakfast & Formal Dining, 1584 Sq. Ft. \$149,900 Tina Fucile, RE/MAX Bastrop Area 512-789-7912, 512-303-4441 Virtual Tour at www.BastropIsBooming.com Discover Bastrop, 15 minutes from the Airport

BASTROP Secluded in the Woods, 2.11 Acres, 2046 Sq. Ft. Mfd. Home, Beautifully appointed, Decorator Colors, Open Gourmet Kitchen w/Island & Computer Niche, Large Family Room, Breakfast & Formal Dining, 4 Bed, 2 Bath. Deed Restricted Community. Fenced Back Lawn with Covered Deck, 10 x 20 Patio and a Stone Fire pit. \$99,500.

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CENTRAL 5401 Duval St. Grandma's house! Fantastic location north of UT with living, dining & 2BD/1BTH. Huge triple lot (75' x 125' total) with a lot of potential. Central air/heat, Pella windows, towering trees & workshop/shed. (MLS# 1014879) \$275,000. Contract Pending!! Call Cindy Spears at Lanier Realty: 512-825-4663. www.cindyspears.com

CENTRAL Updated Crestview Area 2, Classic 50's home w/Hardwoods, Stainless Kitchen, Granite counters, Formal dining, recent redo top to bottom. 3 bed-1 bath- carport \$265,000. Capital Properties/CMAC Real Estate. Call Dennis Merritt, Realtor 512-658-8035

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CENTRAL MUST SELL Fixer Uppers Bank Foreclosures Company Owned Properties Distress Sales

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CENTRAL 1307 San Bernard, Area 5, MLS# 1948014, 2BR/2.5B, 1,880 sq.ft. \$339,000. Enjoy panoramic views in Central East Austin. Newly constructed urban home boasts an open layout, high ceilings, private patio, stained concrete & wood floors & a gourmet kitchen. Less than one mile from Dvtn, State Capitol, UT Austin & Town Lake. cristinavaldes.com. 512-789-0309.

CENTRAL 516 Sunny Lane, Area 6, MLS# 3708581, 3BR/2B, 2,016 sq.ft. \$539,900, Luxurious remodel in Travis Heights with views of downtown & Town Lake! This home boasts travertine & wood flooring, granite counters, stainless appliances & beautifully updated bathrooms. Open Thurs-Fri 4-6PM Virtual tour at cristinavaldes.com. 512-789-0309

CENTRAL NEW & AFFORDABLE CONDOS from \$89,900 2106 Cullen Ave. Brand new construction. Fantastic location. Walk to cap metro, dining, entertainment. Contemporary finishes. 1 & 2 bedrooms available. Trini Carrillo-Agent (512)785-3574 soldbytrini.com

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by James Heffley, Ph.D.

Q. Sometimes I crave raw cabbage and, despite its reputation for causing gas, it actually makes my gut feel better. Is this because it contains "vitamin U" or some other substance? Would taking vitamin U capsules provide even more benefit?

A. "Vitamin U" was the name given in 1952 to a substance found in cabbage juice by Dr. Garnett Cheney. Even though you will find pills confidently labeled vitamin U for sale, there is no consensus among nutritionists or biochemists on what it actually is.

There is no disagreement that drinking a quart of cabbage juice per day is an excellent remedy for peptic ulcers, but the identity of the "magic" ingredient remains unknown. Among the guesses are that it is allantoin, which is also found in comfrey root, long used in folk medicine both externally and internally. Other guesses are that it is a chemical relative of the amino acid L-methionine. The respected Merck Index lists vitamin U as methyl-methionine-sulfonium chloride. Russian research found that when a large amount is given an hour before an aspirin dose, it protects the stomach from the ulcer-promoting effects of aspirin. Wikipedia, the online dictionary, lists vitamin U as an even simpler form of methionine, S-methylmethionine.

Simply put, vitamin U is not acknowledged by mainstream nutrition as a vitamin, and so it joins about a dozen other obscure "vitamins" identified only by a letter. Some nutrients that started out as "unknown substances" with only a letter to identify them are now verified as an essential nutrient. For instance, what was originally termed "vitamin H" is now known to be the B-vitamin biotin, and "vitamin M" is folacin, a form of the B-vitamin folic acid. In some cases, because the active ingredient has been later found to actually be several different substances, it is easier just to keep the letter. For instance, bioflavonoids as a group are still called "vitamin P" because there are a great many of them with similar biological effects, and it would be difficult to single out one bioflavonoid and call only that one "vitamin P."

Although he did not use the term "vitamin U" to describe what he found, Dr. William Shive from the Clayton Foundation Biochemical Institute at the University of Texas at Austin, found that a high concentration of the amino acid L-glutamine was part of the reason that cabbage juice is capable of healing ulcers. It appears that a specific food may have more than one component with a beneficial nutritional effect, and that all these components would probably work better together to provide more benefits than might be expected from any single ingredient.

All these observations tend to confirm what Roger J. Williams termed the "teamwork concept" of nutrition. With antioxidant supplementation this concept has been repeatedly demonstrated to be valid. We find that three or more antioxidants used together perform better and with fewer side effects than supplementation with a single antioxidant. Likewise among the B-complex vitamins, vitamin B-2 is required to change vitamin B-6 into the form actually used by our body cells.

Whole foods will supply at least some of virtually all essential nutrients (there are exceptions, for example there is no vitamin B-12 in plant foods). Thus a variety of whole foods is the best assurance that you will receive the nutrients

James Heffley, Ph.D., is a certified clinical nutritionist. The information he provides is for educational use only. If you believe you have a medical problem, see your physician.

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EVENTS

TEXAS STATE PAGEANT Texas Dream Girls USA State Pageant 2007 NOW taking applications for home town queens to represent your city, four age divisions,contact Sherry@ MissShar2027@aol.com or call 281-347-7282

530

GENERAL

ADOPTION PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION? Talk with caring people specializing in matching birthmothers with families nationwide. EXPENSES PAID. Toll free 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions 1-866-413-6293 (AAN CAN)

DONATIONS Please donate old cell phones & ink cartridges to Central TX SPCA, 909 S. Bagdad, Leander, Mon&Fri 3-7, Sat&Sun 12-5.

FLASHBACK MOVED Flashback has moved to 1805 S. 1st due to evil landlord syndrome. Come support your local business!

TESTING CONFIDENTIAL LAB TESTING ONLINE
All Medical Lab Tests Available! Same Day Testing. Accurate Tests without the Hassle. Quick, Efficient & Professional! <http://www.labsmd.com> (AAN CAN)

LOST CALICO CAT Very old, very loved and missed calico kitty lost since 7-24-06. Lake Austin Blvd. area (near Magnolia Cafe/Deep Eddy. If found please call 474-8888 or 638-2181 or bring to Lake Austin Blvd. Animal Hospital. NEEDS MEDICAL ATTENTION!!!! Reward!!!!

LOST NECKLACE Disc-shaped tan and brown jasper on black cord. 512.569.6135

545

LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-06-002803
To: THIERRY LEROUX and to all whom it may concern, Respondent(s): GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COM-MANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 353RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE filed in said court on the JUNE 6, 2006, and said suit being number D-1-FM-06-002803 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF MARYVONNE LEROUX and THIERRY LEROUX".

The nature of said suit is a request to DISSOLVE the marriage of the parties, appoint managing and possessory conservators, and divide the estate of the parties in a manner that the court deems just and right.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree dissolving the marriage and providing for the division of property which will be binding upon you.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, June 07, 2006.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ- MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ Kelly Nious, Deputy
RECEIVED BY:
JOHN F. CAMPBELL
1601 RIO GRANDE STE 405
AUSTIN, TX 78701
BUSINESS PHONE: (512)476-6036

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-GV-04-002839
To: GREGORIO JARAMILLO Defendant(s), in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk

who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday AUGUST 21, 2006, and answer the ORIGINAL NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INTENDED FORFEITURE PURSUANT TO TEX. CODE OF CRIM PROC. CHAPTER 59 of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 403RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of Travis County, Texas, on JULY 14, 2006, a default judgment may be taken against you. Said suit being number D-1-GV-04-002839, in which THE STATE OF TEXAS Plaintiff(s), and \$2,630.00 U.S. CURRENCY, GREGORIO JARAMILLO Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows:

ON OR ABOUT THE 11TH DAY OF AUGUST 2004, THE AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT, LOCATED AT 715 E. 8TH STREET AUSTIN, TEXAS, SEIZED THE ABOVE CONTRABAND, WHICH WAS USED OR INTENDED TO BE USED IN THE COMMISSION OF A FELONY PURSUANT TO ART. 59.01 OF TEX. CODE CRIM. PROC.

ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL NOTICE OF SEIZURE & INTENDED FORFEITURE PURSUANT TO TEX. CODE OF CRIM. PROC. CHAPTER 59 ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, July 14, 2006.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ- MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ Marchelle Dukes, Deputy
RECEIVED BY:
ROBERT SMITH
P.O. BOX 1748
AUSTIN, TX 78767
(512)854-9400

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF CHARLES CLYDE NELSON III, Deceased, No. 85215 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

MELISSA ANN NELSON alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 20th day of JULY, 2006, an Application for Declaration of Heirship and Appointment of Independent Administrator the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said CHARLES CLYDE NELSON III, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this 20th day of July, 2006.
DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767
By Deputy:/s/ Monica Limon

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-06-003519
To: UNKNOWN FATHER and to all whom it may concern, Respondent(s): GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of

twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COM-MANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 261ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME OF CHILD of MARY LEOTA COLE Plaintiffen(s), filed in said court on JULY 17, 2006, against UNKNOWN FATHER Respondent(s), and said suit being number D-1-FM-06-003519 the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF ELENA HOPE AMO", the nature of which suit is a request ORIGINAL PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME OF CHILD
The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, July 18, 2006.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ- MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
1000 Guadalupe
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ Tina Gutierrez, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
REBECCA STERN
316 W 12TH ST STE 402
AUSTIN, TX 78701
BUSINESS PHONE:
(512)481-9950
FAX: (512)481-9951

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF WILLIE E HILL, Deceased, No. 85215 in Probate Court Number of Travis County, Texas. THURMAN CRAYTON alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 20th day of JULY, 2006, an Application to Declare Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said WILLIE E HILL, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this 20th day of July, 2006.
DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767
By Deputy:/s/ Monica Limon

LEGAL NOTICES
THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE accepts LEGAL NOTICES at the low rate of \$21 per column inch.

Notarized affidavits of publication and audited circulation statements are provided upon request.

Call Jessica @ 512-454-5765 ext. 168 for more info.

NO. 85,071
ESTATE OF MAURINE GAINES BRYDSON, DE-CEASED
IN PROBATE COURT NO. 1 OF TRAVIS COUNTY,TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of Maurine Gaines Brydson, Deceased, were issued to Marvin G. Bloomquist, whose residence and mailing address is 2425 FM 2342, Burnet, Texas 78611, on July 19, 2006, by the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, in Cause No. 85,071, which is still pending, and that the Executor now holds such Letters Testamentary. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the claims to Marvin G. Bloomquist, c/o Michele A. Mobley, DuBois, Bryant, Campbell & Schwartz, L.L.P., 700 Lavaca Street, Suite 1300, Austin, Texas 78701, within the time prescribed by law.
/s/ Michele A. Mobley
DuBois, Bryant, Campbell & Schwartz, L.L.P.
700 Lavaca Street,Suite 1300
Austin, Texas 78701
Dated: July 21, 2006

NOTICE You are hereby notified that St. Louis-based Alberici Constructors, Inc., f/k/a J.S. Alberici Construction Company, Inc., and its affiliated companies (collective hereinafter "Alberici Constructors, Inc.") intend to destroy records in accordance with their records retention policy. These records relate to construction jobs where Alberici Constructors, Inc. served as general contractor, sub-contractor or a supplier of equipment or operators. The records cover jobs pre-dating 1995.

Notice is hereby given to all concerned parties, persons, firms and organizations with a legitimate interest in the records that they may inspect or copy these records on the terms and conditions set forth below:

The inspection must take place between August 21st and September 15th, 2006, at Alberici's offices in St. Louis, Missouri by advanced reservation only. Each individual or firm is responsible for bearing its own inspection and/or copying costs, fees and expenses.

Participants must first execute an agreement to be provided by Alberici Constructors, Inc., protecting the confidential, proprietary and privileged nature of the records inspected and copied. To participate in this inspection and/or copying, contact the following individual no later than August 16th.

Amanda Powell, Paralegal, Alberici Constructors, Inc.
8800 Pace Avenue; St. Louis, Missouri 63114
Direct: 314-733-2333
Fax: 314-733-2012
e-mail: apowell@alberici.com

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas abandoned vehicle motor act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

1)OWNER: ISMAEL CUEVAS
1991 CHEVROLET
VIN: 1GNDM19Z1MB151914
LP: T32SLZ

2)OWNER: SHANNON OBRIEN
1989 CHEVROLET
VIN: 1GNDM15Z1KB218952
LP: W18MMV

3)OWNER: REBECCA MCGUIRE
1991 GEO STORM
VIN: J81RF4364M7553000

4)OWNER: SHERRY GIN-GROW
1994 FORD EXPLORER
VIN: 1FMCU24X3RUB05556
LP: 1RPYF

5)OWNER: MICHAEL PARKS
1991 HONDA CIVIC
VIN: 1HGED3540ML073317
LP: B17FTB

6)OWNER: ROSA RIVERA
1988 HONDA PRELUDE
VIN: JHMBA424XJC048200
LP: TRF24K

AUCTION: August 11, 2006 @ 6:00 AM
About Town Towing
2905 W. Howard Lane
Austin, TX 78728
(512) 835-5444

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle(s), the following vehicles will be sold at Public Auction if not claimed within 30 days.

Garagekeeper:
A&A WRECKER AND RECOVERY, LLC
2963 B MANOR ROAD
AUSTIN, TX 78722
(512)670-7578
MAZDA PROTEGE
PLATES: PKG237 (NEBRASKA PLATES)
VIN: JM1BG2243N0498718

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas abandoned vehicle motor act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

1)OWNER: JOSE B ROGEL
1988 HONDA CIVIC
VIN: 1HGED3555JA023142
LP: R50VDS

2)OWNER: CHRISTOPHER TOBBERT
1996 DODGE NEON
VIN: 1B3ES47C6T7302344
LP: M33WDT

3)OWNER: JULIE ARGUELLO
1987 ACURA INTEGRA
VIN: JH4DA3358H5037545
LP: WWK71Y

4)OWNER: DAGMAR RIVERA
1992 MITSUBISHI GALANT
VIN: JA3CRA46VXNZ054386
LP: JHW10H

5)OWNER: LISA A MONCRIEF
1988 HONDA CIVIC
VIN: JHMC45631JC076155
LP: RXR39F

6)OWNER: KENDRA SLUSSLER
1994 FORD TEMPO
VIN: 1FAPP31X0RK122761
LP: N83SWP

7)OWNER: ARMANDO MAR-TINEZ
1990 BUICK RIVERIA
VIN: 1G4EZ13C9LU402177
LP: 503HXD

AUCTION: August 4, 2006 @ 6:00 AM
About Town Towing
2905 W. Howard Lane
Austin, TX 78728
(512) 835-5444

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas abandoned vehicle motor act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off by the Travis County Sheriff's Office unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

1) OWNER: UNKNOWN
1987 CHEVROLET
VIN: JG1MS2158HK710063
LP: 1AS0864
2) OWNER: UNKNOWN
1994 SATURN
VIN: 16B8ZH5597RZ186837

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE
In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at the Uncle Bob's Self Storage locations listed below; And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the following addresses to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of on the following dates. No one under 16 allowed. Cash Only.

Uncle Bob's # 285
9717 US HWY 290 E
Austin, TX 78724
512-278-1220

Tuesday, August 15, 2006 @ 9:00 AM
#203 Lupe Gonzales - boxes, tools

#207 Joey Dukes - furniture, appliances, boxes, TV's and stereo equipment, landscaping equipment

#709 Eminenia Bolanos - nice misc. furniture, household items

Uncle Bob's # 231
8227 North Lamar
Austin, TX 78753
(512) 833-0855

Tuesday, August 15, 2006 @ 10:00 AM

611 Freddie Jr Brown - household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip., office equip., office machines

756 Billy Jack Phillips - household goods

903 Herbert Griffin - furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip.

910 Andrew Coley - household goods, furniture, boxes, 945 Tim McCorkle - household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip.

7743 Janie Harris - household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equipment

Uncle Bob's Self #197
5547 McNeil Drive
Austin, TX 78729
(512) 336-8390
Tuesday, August 15, 2006 @ 12 noon

430 Gina Twomey - furniture, boxes, tools, TV's or stereo equip.

1738 Rebecca Carmona - household goods, boxes

1762 Terry Molina - household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip., office machines

Uncle Bob's #287
6509 South 1st Street
Austin, TX 78745
(512) 326-9696
Tuesday, August 15, 2006 @ 1:30 PM

114 Nelson Menendez - household goods, furniture, boxes, TV's or stereo equip.

301 Gordon Gentry - household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip.

2241 Raymond Manriquez - household goods, furniture, boxes, TV's or stereo equip.

3304 Michael Condrion - household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, TV's or stereo equip., office equip.

3330 Maria Villarreal - furniture, boxes, tools, appliances, construction equip.

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATION Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulation:

Speed Limit Regulation on Calldvis Road in Precinct Four.

Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by this proposed action may make written request for a mandatory public hearing. Such request must be addressed to the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Travis County, Texas, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas, 78767, and must be received within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Notice is hereby given that the City Council and Zoning Commission for the City of Sunset Valley, Texas, will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, 15th day of August, 2006, at 6:30 p.m. at the City Hall located at 3205 Jones Road, Sunset Valley, Texas to consider the following Proposed Zoning Changes:

An application submitted by J.D. Weaver Family Limited Partnership owner block B, Villas at Sunset Valley Homestead. Said property consisting of 35.275-acres of land in the Theo Bissell Survey No. 18 being a portion of that certain 280.5 acre tract conveyed to J.D. Weaver Family Limited Partnership by Deed of Record in Volume 12345, Page 1715 of the real property records of Travis County, Texas.

From: PUD - Planned Unit Development

To: PUD - Planned Unit Development with Revised Conditional Overlays

All interested persons are invited to attend and participate in said hearing. Any person may submit testimony in person at such hearing or submit written comments filed with the City Secretary between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday prior to the hearing. All written comments must be received by 3:00 p.m., on or before Thursday, August 10th, 2006. The application on the Zoning Change Request may be examined at the office of the City Secretary of Sunset Valley, Texas during regular office hours.

s/Linda D. Browning
City Secretary

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

PS Texas Holdings, LTD., hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien pursuant to chapter 59 of the Texas property code, at the time and place indicated below, and on the following terms: All property generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or credit cards, **NO CHECKS**, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property will be sold on the 17th of AUGUST, 2006 at each self-storage facility at which it is described below: **NO CHILDREN PLEASE.**

9:30 a.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 10100 Nth IH-35, Austin, TX 78753

B054 MARGIE FARLEY, CHAIR, SUITCASE, BAGS

B086 TONY GLENN, SUITCASE, FURNITURE, TOTES

C118 VONNIE DIAMOND, DRESSER, TOTES, BOXES

D008 ANDY BROWNLEE, CLOTHES, STEREO, LAMP

D086 DEON HARRISON, CLOTHES, BAGS, TOTES

10:30 a.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 937 Reinli, Austin, TX., 78751

225 MARK ABRAHAMS, BOXES, CHAIR, GOLF CLUBS

228 BILLY SPIVEY, JR., BOXES, OFFICE CHAIR, TOTE

241 THE HOUSE OF REFUGE, DESK, CHAIRS, FILE CABINET

777 FLORINDA ESPARZA, DRESSER, WASHER, FAN

783 RHONDA SAULS, MICROWAVE, CHAIRS, TOTES

11:30 a.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 8101 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753

102 SAM GARRETT, BOXES, SUITCASE

126 DOROTHY GRADY, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

140 KEITH BROWN, TIRES, SAW, CLOTHES

144 ADAN HERNANDEZ, BOXES, BAGS, TABLE

226 MARIA CEDILLO, TV, CHAIRS, BIKE

322 LISA GONZALES, TOTES, AMOUIRE, BIKE

540 ELSA VAUGHN, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

543 PAULA BROCK, TV, BIKE, DRESSER

550 DAVID YEARWOOD, DRESSER, VACUUM, LAMP

1144 BRENT HARRELSON, TV, FAN, BOXES

1410 TUNESIA WEBB, END TABLE, SOFA, TV

1422 KDI FACILITY SERVICES, CHAIRS, FILE CABINET, PARTITIONS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

PS Texas Holdings, LTD., hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien pursuant to chapter 59 of the Texas property code, at the time and place indicated below, and on the following terms: All property generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or credit cards, **NO CHECKS**, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property will be sold on the 17th of AUGUST, 2006 at each self-storage facility at which it is described below: **NO CHILDREN PLEASE.**

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543 PAULA BROCK, TV, BIKE, DRESSER

550 DAVID YEARWOOD, DRESSER, VACUUM, LAMP

1144 BRENT HARRELSON, TV, FAN, BOXES

1410 TUNESIA WEBB, END TABLE, SOFA, TV

1422 KDI FACILITY SERVICES, CHAIRS, FILE CABINET, PARTITIONS

1506 BRIAN ALLEN, WAGON, SUITCASE, BOXES

N1262 JACINDA POWELL, FUTON, DRESSER, TV

N2289 WALTER LOPEZ, SOFA BAR STOOL, BOXES

N2367 CATINA VILLANUEVA, BAR STOOL, VACUUM, STEREO

N3462 DENELL WILLIAMS, BIKE, SOFA, TV

N3525 IRVIN WILKERSON, DRESSER, FAN, TOTE

2139 MELINDA SIMMERS, SOFA, STEREO, TV

3063 PARRICIA EASLEY, LUGGAGE, TOTES, BAGS

3107 WANDA AUGUSTINE, BOXES

3120 GILBERT JOHNSON, MATTRESS, BOX SPRINGS, BAGS

3188 FRANK CARLOS, SOFA, LOVE SEAT, MATTRESS

2:00 p.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 8525 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753

A038 DANNICKA PEREZ, BOXES, TOTES, FOOD

C019 GRACE JACKSON, LAMP, COFFEE TABLE, BOXES

E025 LEON OLIVERA, BOXES, CLOTHING

G023 DONNIE JOHNSON, MATTRESS, BOX SPRING, CHAIR

G040 MOIPONE GAOBEPE, BAGS, SUITCASE, TOTES

H005 ANGIE FOLLIS, AMOUIRE, SOFA, LOVE SEAT

H017 JENNIFER BATCHELLOR, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

J026 EVERETT SWAIN, BOXES, PIANO, ROCKING HORSE

3:30 p.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 8128 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753

D066 MELISSA KEYSER, MATTRESS, BOX SPRING, TABLE

D068 JIMMY VILLARREAL, STEREO, BOXES, TOTES

E011 JOANN FLORES, CLOTHING, TOTES, BOXES

F053 MONIQUE A. TOLIVER, SOFA, LOVE SEAT, CHAIRS

G027 LINDA REINA, A/C UNIT, BOXES, STOVE

G034 VICTOR FLORES JR., DRESSER, STEREO, TV

4:30 p.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 9205 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 787

B026 NAOMI ROBINSON, STEREO, BOXES, NIGHT STAND

D107 INDIRA HERNANDEZ, CHAIRS, MOWER, DRESSER

E010 SONIA ANAYA, GRILL, FAN, NOTES

5:00 p.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 10931 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759

B023 PATRICIA MOYNAHAN, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

B034 CESAR NAVARRO, PINGPONG TABLE, BOXES, SHOES

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF TRAVIS

By virtue of a certain Writ of Execution issued by Justice of the Peace Pct 3 of Travis County, Texas, on the 26th day of May, 2006 in a certain cause numbered 012972, wherein Jordan Lopez, Jose Cruz Garcia Angelse, Roberto Gonzales of Austin the Plaintiffs and Samuel O. Maxie of Austin the Defendant, in favor of said Plaintiff for the sum of Two Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Six Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$2,286.50) together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of the judgment recovered by said Plaintiff, in Justice of the Peace Pct 3 in Travis County, Texas on the 23rd day of March, 2005.

I, on the 14th day of June at 8:00 a.m. have levied upon, and will on the 1st day of August, 2006 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (at 11:00 a.m.), on said day, at the courthouse steps of said county, offer for sale at public auction for cash to the highest bidder, all the right, title and interest of Defendant in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of Defendant, to wit:

ABS 405 Sur 528 HEISSNER G ACR 5.114, commonly known as: 9909 Rimstone Trail, Austin, TX 78736

Note: On the property sold there are no warranties, expressed or implied, including but not limited to the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. You have bought the property "as is". Buyers are further advised that the purchase of the property at the Constable's sale may not extinguish any liens or security interest on or in the property. You have simply purchased whatever interest the defendant had in the property. If you have any questions, you should consult the counsel of your choice.

The purchaser will be required to produce an unexpired written statement from the Tax-assessor-collector of the County in which the sale is conducted that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed to the county, school district or municipality.

The above sale to be made by me to satisfy the above-described

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

PS Texas Holdings, LTD., hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien pursuant to chapter 59 of the Texas property code, at the time and place indicated below, and on the following terms: All property generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or credit cards, **NO CHECKS**, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property will be sold on the 17th of AUGUST, 2006 at each self-storage facility at which it is described below: **NO CHILDREN PLEASE.**

9:30 a.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 10100 Nth IH-35, Austin, TX 78753

B054 MARGIE FARLEY, CHAIR, SUITCASE, BAGS

B086 TONY GLENN, SUITCASE, FURNITURE, TOTES

C118 VONNIE DIAMOND, DRESSER, TOTES, BOXES

D008 ANDY BROWNLEE, CLOTHES, STEREO, LAMP

D086 DEON HARRISON, CLOTHES, BAGS, TOTES

10:30 a.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 937 Reinli, Austin, TX., 78751

225 MARK ABRAHAMS, BOXES, CHAIR, GOLF CLUBS

228 BILLY SPIVEY, JR., BOXES, OFFICE CHAIR, TOTE

241 THE HOUSE OF REFUGE, DESK, CHAIRS, FILE CABINET

777 FLORINDA ESPARZA, DRESSER, WASHER, FAN

783 RHONDA SAULS, MICROWAVE, CHAIRS, TOTES

11:30 a.m. 17 AUGUST, 2006 Public Storage @ 8101 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753

102 SAM GARRETT, BOXES, SUITCASE

126 DOROTHY GRADY, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

140 KEITH BROWN, TIRES, SAW, CLOTHES

144 ADAN HERNANDEZ, BOXES, BAGS, TABLE

226 MARIA CEDILLO, TV, CHAIRS, BIKE

322 LISA GONZALES, TOTES, AMOUIRE, BIKE

540 ELSA VAUGHN, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

543 PAULA BROCK, TV, BIKE, DRESSER

550 DAVID YEARWOOD, DRESSER, VACUUM, LAMP

1144 BRENT HARRELSON, TV, FAN, BOXES

1410 TUNESIA WEBB, END TABLE, SOFA, TV

1422 KDI FACILITY SERVICES, CHAIRS, FILE CABINET, PARTITIONS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

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judgment for Two Thousand and Hundred Eighty Six Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$2,286.50) in favor of said Plaintiff, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Richard McCain
Travis County Constable Pct 3
8656-B Hwy 71 West, Ste. E
Austin, TX 78735
(512)854-2100
By: /s/ Damon Miller Deputy

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF THEODOCIA S. COWAN, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. 84967, styled Estate of Theodocia S. Cowan, Deceased, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on July 18, 2006, to Tommy Neal Cowan.

Claims may be presented and addressed to the personal representative of the estate in care of his attorneys at the following address:

c/o Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & MoodyA Professional Corporation
Attn: Kevin Holcomb
P.O. Box 98
401 Congress, Suite 2200
Austin, Texas 78767-0098

All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

the COMMON LAW
by Brandy Wingate and Luke Ellis

The material in this column is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute, nor is it a substitute for, legal advice. For advice on your specific facts and circumstances, consult a licensed attorney.

ILLEGAL DUMPING – DOGGY STYLE

My neighbor's pet keeps using my yard as a toilet. Is there anything I can do (legally) to stop him from letting his pet go in my yard?

It is a beautiful day. You walk out your front door. As you bend over to pick up your morning paper, you smell something foul: your neighbor's doggie doo doo. There are several legal actions that you can take to remedy this situation.

First, try talking to your neighbor. Assuming you have already tried and failed, the second option is to check with your homeowners association to see if there are any rules about cleaning up after pets. You may be able to file a complaint with the association, resulting in a notice or even a fine. This will certainly get your neighbor's attention.

Third, assuming you live in Austin, you could call the city of Austin and/or the police department and file a complaint for a violation of Austin Municipal Code, section 3-4-6. Section 3-4-6 states that "an owner or handler shall promptly remove and sanitarly dispose of feces left on public or private property by a dog or cat being handled by the person, other than property owned by the owner or handler of the dog or cat." A violation of this section is a Class C misdemeanor, meaning that it is punishable by a fine.

You could also complain to the police of criminal trespass; however, you will have to notify your neighbor either orally or by posting a sign stating that entry on your property is forbidden. You should make sure that the sign you post complies with your homeowners association rules. And obviously, if you speak to your neighbor in person, remember the rule my mother always recites: You will catch more flies with honey than with vinegar, so be nice!

Finally, you could file a civil lawsuit against your neighbor for trespass. If this route is chosen, be aware that it will likely cost you more in attorney's fees than you will get in damages. But please, before you walk into an attorney's office for advice, check the bottom of your shoes!

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and comments to thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com. Submission of potential topics does not create an attorney-client relationship, and any information submitted is subject to being included in future columns.

Car Talk
by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

A CLEAN CAR WON'T GET BETTER GAS MILEAGE

Dear Tom and Ray:

A friend of mine says I am wrong, and I was hoping you would have the answer. Whenever I go on a long trip, I always wash and wax the car before I start, and as the bugs collect, I hit car washes as needed along the way. Besides, it is great driving a nice, pretty car. My reasoning is that a clean car has less drag, so there is a small improvement in gas mileage. My friend asked me if this was supposed to be a joke. He says the actual difference in gas mileage would be too small to matter. Can you comment? –Steven

RAY: If it makes you feel good to drive a nice, clean car, Steven, then you should absolutely do it. But you're not saving a measurable amount of gas that way – not unless you're cleaning off some enormous, mutant, three-dimensional bird dropping in the shape of airplane flaps.

TOM: While washing the car won't hurt, you'll certainly spend more on the car washes than you'll ever save on gasoline. I mean, the special "Gold Service," with underbody wash, the air-drying by six exhaling former Soviet ballerinas, and personalized fuzzy-dice preening has to run you at least \$12.95 a pop.

RAY: If you're determined to save gas on a long trip, Steven, your time would be better spent making sure your car has been serviced, your tires are properly inflated, your windows are closed, and you drive at the speed limit.

You want to buy a used car, but how do you find a good one? Tom and Ray can help! Order "How to Buy a Great Used Car: Secrets Only Your Mechanic Knows." Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Used Car, PO Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at www.cartalk.com.

Tune in to Car Talk each Saturday at 9am on **90.5 KUT** AUSTIN TEXAS

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CONTINUED 545 LEGAL NOTICES

DATED the 17th day of July, 2006.
RONALD N. GRAVES and
STEVEN D. SMITH
By: /s/ Elizabeth A. Howard
State Bar No. 12969300
LOCKE LIDDELL & SAPP LLP
2200 Ross Avenue, Suite 2200
Dallas, Texas 75201-6776
Telephone: (214) 740-8000
Telecopier: (214) 740-8800
ATTORNEYS FOR THE ESTATE

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS
HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST
THE ESTATE OF NELSON
PUETT, DECEASED** Notice is
hereby given that Letters of
Testamentary were issued on the
21st day of June, 2006, for the
Estate of NELSON PUETT.
Deceased, pending in Cause No.
84950 in the Probate Court No.
One of Travis County, Texas, to:
RUTH PUETT
Independent Executor
All persons having claims
against the Estate which is
currently being administered are
required to present them within
the time and in the manner
prescribed by law.

Based on the instruction of the
Independent Executor that
claims be addressed in care of
the Independent Executor's
attorney, the address to which
claims may be presented is:
RUTH PUETT
Independent Executor
Estate of NELSON PUETT,
Deceased
c/o Law Offices of Rhonda H.
Brink
7793 Burnet Road #52
Austin, Texas 78757

DATED this 13th day of July, 2006.
RUTH PUETT
Independent Executor
Estate of NELSON PUETT,
Deceased
By: /s/ Thomas Baird
BAIRD, CREWS, SCHILLER &
WHITAKER, PC.
15 North Main
Temple, Texas 76501
Phone: (254) 774-8333 ext. 203
Fax: (254) 774-9353
and Co-Counsel
Rhonda H. Brink
LAW OFFICES OF RHONDA H.
BRINK
7793 Burnet Road #52
Austin, Texas 78757
Phone: (512) 454-8400
Fax: (512) 454-2055

ATTORNEYS FOR THE IN-
DEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that
original Letters Testamentary for
the Estate of Russell J. Brennan,
Deceased, were issued on July 7,
2006, in Cause No. 84971,
pending in the Probate Court No.
1 of Travis County, Texas, to Anne
R. Brennan, of Austin, Texas.

All persons having claims
against this Estate, which is
currently being administered, are
required to present them within
the time and in the manner
prescribed by law. All claims
should be addressed in care of
the Independent Executor's
attorney, Elizabeth M. Schurig, at
100 Congress Avenue, Suite 2200,
Austin, Texas, 78701.

DATED this 21st day of July,
2006.
GIORDANI, SCHURIG, BECKETT
& TACKETT L.L.P.
By: Elizabeth M. Schurig
ATTORNEY FOR ANNE R.
BRENNAN, INDEPENDENT
EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE OF
RUSSELL J. BRENNAN,
DECEASED

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that
original Letters Testamentary for
the Estate of Venoy Parr Curtis,
Deceased, were issued on July
12, 2006, under Docket No. 84988,
pending in the Probate Court No.
1 of Travis County, Texas, to Ray
Turner Curtis.
Claims may be presented in care
of the attorney for the estate,
addressed as follows:
Representative, Estate of
Venoy Parr Curtis, Deceased
c/o Forest D. Cook

The Law Offices of Forest D. Cook
P.O. Box 1482
Austin, Texas 78767-1482
All persons having claims
against this estate, which is
currently being administered, are
required to present them within
the time and in the manner
prescribed by law.
Dated July 19, 2006.
Law Office of Forest D. Cook
By: /s/ Forest D. Cook, SBOT#
04728000
Katherine S. Cheng, SBOT#
24040679
ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that
original Letters Testamentary for
the Estate of Bernice L. Dawson,
Deceased, were issued on June
11, 2006 in Docket No. 85094,
pending in the Probate Court
Number One of Travis County,
Texas, to Sharon L. Minehart.

Claims may be addressed in care
of the Executor's attorney, as
follows:
Sharon L. Minehart, Independent
Executor
c/o Jennifer J. Mattingly
Attorney at Law
11782 Jollyville Rd.
Austin, Texas 78759
All persons having claims
against this Estate which is
currently being administered are
required to present them within
the time and in the manner
prescribed by law.
Dated this 17th day of July, 2006.
Jennifer J. Mattingly
11782 Jollyville Rd.
Austin, Texas 78759
(512) 219-4090
Attorney for the Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that
original Letters of Administration
with Will Annexed for the Estate
of LAVON ELZO SMITH,
Deceased, were issued on July
18, 2006 in Cause No. 84810,
pending in the Probate Court No.
ONE, TRAVIS County, Texas to:
Jackie Jordan-Davis.

All persons having claims
against this Estate which is
currently being administered are
required to present them within
the time and in the manner
prescribed by law to Jackie
Jordan-Davis, c/o Judith Gres
DeBerry, 4408 Spicewood
Springs Rd., Austin, Texas 78759.
DATED the 21st day of July, 2006
By: Judith Gres DeBerry
Attorney for Jackie Jordan-Davis

**PUBLISHED NOTICE TO
CREDITORS** Notice is hereby
given that Letters Testamentary
for the Estate of
JAMES HENRY SCHORR aka
JAMES H. SCHORR were issued
on July 19, 2006 in Docket
Number 84977, pending in the
Probate No. One, Travis County,
Texas to PAUL ZACHARY
SCHORR, Independent Executor.
The address of record for PAUL
ZACHARY SCHORR is 7201 Old
Bee Caves Road, Austin, Texas
78735. All persons having claims
against this Estate are required to
present their claims to the
foregoing address within the time
and in the manner prescribed by
law.
S/ Paul Zachary Schorr, In-
dependent Executor of the Estate
of JAMES HENRY SCHORR aka
JAMES H. SCHORR

**PUBLISHED NOTICE TO
CREDITORS** Notice is hereby
given that Letters Testamentary
for the Estate of
LERAH E. RICHARDSON were
issued on July 18, 2006 in Docket
Number 85076, pending in the
Probate No. One, Travis County,
Texas to ROBERT LAMAR
RICHARDSON and MARY LYNN
CLINGER, Independent Co-
Executors. The address of record
for ROBERT LAMAR
RICHARDSON is 1812 Ashby
Avenue, Austin, Texas 78704. The
address of record for MARY LYNN
CLINGER is 2503 Mitchell Lane,
Austin, Texas 78748. All persons
having claims against this Estate
are required to present their
claims to the foregoing address
within the time and in the manner
prescribed by law.
S/ Robert Lamar Richardson,
Independent Co-Executor of the
Estate of LERAH E. RICHARDSON

S/ Mary Lynn Clinger, In-
dependent Co-Executor of the
Estate of LERAH E. RICHARDSON



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STORMY T

KINKS: SATIN, VOYEURISM.

What's the kinkiest thing you've ever done or want to do?
Participated in a couple of threesomes.

What is your hottest feature and why?
All of me. Because I love the way I look and feel.


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
**Smokin' Singles Night With
the K-Tel Hit Machine**
Fri., July 28, 8pm • La Zona Rosa
612 W. Fourth • www.lazonarosa.com

All singles events are suspect. Any person/business/organization with a hard-on for playing Yentl probably has an ulterior motive. Know it. Own it. That way, if you should find yourself holding up the wallpaper at the Red Lion Inn cocktail lounge on a Saturday night with 20 or 30 other anxious looking people sporting business casual attire and name tags done up in red sharpie, you can't claim ignorance. Take a look around you. Is this what it's come to? Sometimes in your desperation to get laid you only end up fucking yourself. You know better than that. You don't have to squint to read the signs that say you're on the road to Squaresville. They're usually written in bold print: "Singles Night!" And if you find yourself at Cool River, sharing an awkward lunch hour across the table from a cologne-soaked salesman in a Hawaiian print shirt, pleated khaki shorts and sockless loafers, just know that the chirpy ex-stewardess who you paid to set you up with Mr. Cell-phone-on-a-belt-clip maybe doesn't have your long-term happiness on the top of her to-do list. Maybe the whole premise is jacked. The interesting thing about you isn't the fact that you're single and looking to hook up. Your availability is not your defining feature as a human being. If it is, maybe you shouldn't breed at all. The interesting thing about you is that thing you're really interested in. It doesn't need to be much ... you don't have to be curing cancer or saving displaced war orphans. Maybe you do needlepoint, salsa dance, or fix up old cars, or maybe you're just really fucking nuts about live music. If it's the latter, then you are in a healthy mental state to attend this Friday's Smokin' Singles Night at La Zona Rosa. Yes, Smokin' Singles Night. Kiss of death? Maybe not. This singles night has a really kickass cover band, the K-Tel Hit Machine that features A-List performers: Trish and Darin Murphy, Johnnie Goudy, Paul English, Mike Belile, Kyle Crusham, and Benjamin Hotchkiss as well as a sensational opening act, Billy Harvey. If you're the kind of person who can free your inner dork and totally rock out to pop and rock classics from the Seventies and Eighties, this is your show, regardless of your singularity. Plus, it's sponsored by Lovers Lane. We may be suspect, but we'd never intentionally steer you wrong.


GOOD TIMES.

I'm looking for an interesting person who is adventurous outside the dungeon. Engaging conversation and the ability to laugh and to not take themselves too seriously strongly desired. **Kaaskittn**, 26,  #118146

SIN-SUAL DOMN8RIK

ME: VERY Sexy 27 SWF. You: 35-45 SWM-Submissive overly eager to please-and-PAMPER me. My rule is absolute and punishments are swift... However the rewards are incalculable. **MiStryss_WyND**, 27,  #116714


SEEKING SWEET DADDY

28 yo professional black female. Looking for a professional white gentleman 35-50 to take on the role as my sweet daddy. Looking for mutually satisfying sexual relationship. Discretion a must. **curvy1**, 29,  #116196


ROMANTIC NERD

I am a big nerd, I enjoy intellegent debate, gaming and a little romance. I love cuddling and long makeout sessions. I am always looking for new adventures in bed. **AmbyRhodes**, 18,  #115371

HORNY NEED MORE!

29 yr old married HF seeking discreet sex partner for occasional romps in the sack. you must be discreet.26-35 hispanic male. no long term relationships.speak spanish. **Znoty2bnice**, 29,  #114844

LETS PLAY

Im a 34 year old ,BBW who is married with kids , who is looking for someone to play with on the side. Must be fun, single, and open minded. **Angel_Love71**, 34,  #101147

COUPLE

Clean couple looking for a clean girl, likes, parting, couples, please be attractive and discreet and meet to see what happens. **Activleysearching**, 25, #118165

COUPLE WANTING 3SUM

Hi were a very attractive couple been together 4 years just looking for a man/woman to join us in a threesome age 18-23 open minded and experienced!! **greengirl69**, 18, #118164

COME PLAY!

Curious attractive couple seeking hot couple between 20 and 30 for fun. This is our first time so discretion is a must. We're looking for new experiences and new friends. **Curious-Couple**, 25, #118149

SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING

I have become very reserved since having kids. My husband and i are looking to expand our sexuallife again. We have been had several 3somes before with girls and guys. **jadedragon**, 30, #118103

LOVE,SEX,MAGIC

Couple looking for little spice. Female 40 Male mid 30's attractive,fit,easy going,looking to have a little fun. Seeking Female/Male/Couples ages 30/40's for 3sum or group fun. Let meet. **couple4fun**, 40, #118095

THREESOME GODDESS

couple mid40s seek men to celebrate the sexual aspects of pagan goddess adoration outdoor rituals, hispanic,endowed a plus. he is strait she loves being double teamed. **beltane**, 45, #118059


LOOK AT ME!!!

Hi, gotta be quick. I'll write more later. We are moving around the first to New Orleans. So write me now!5' 115 lbs 20yrs old and married. wana play? **Honey21**, 20, #118029

HORNY BLK CPL

Blk cpl seeking cpl or single women 22-30 for discreet encounters, no strings. She's bi-curious and husband likes to watch and participate if wanted. Must be ok with. D/D free. **ebnycpl**, 25, #117960


EROTIC CHAT

looking for someone to share my fantasies with and also interested in exploring yours. **discreetgirlie**, 24,  #117789


INDULGE MY FANTASIES

Looking to find another attractive college age female to experiment with. No relationship really just fun playful friendship with great benefits =). **runne03**, 21, #117701

FOUR SEASONS AFTERNOON

BiF seeks GF just for me. Be 24-40.. enjoy excess. I'm attractive professional, turned on by intelligence and subdued sexuality. Attracted to little athletic types: butch or femme. Please, no expectations. **lizzy11**, 31,  #117594

NEED A LOVER-MUSE

I'm a pretty, VERY femme corporate professional/ photographer/artist searching for an attractive, equally femme lover/model, 20's to 30's, to be a some time companion for shoots in the Austin area. **petit_fleur_lamour**, 30,  #116710

SENSUAL NEW DIVORCEE

Sensual new divorcee blonde exploring and expanding my sexual experiences. Hoping to meet a female who wishes pleasure enrichment. Please be light hearted relaxed and submissive. **but-terfly**, 46, #116261


MILF SEEKS MILF

MILF seeks MILF for one-on-one fun under the sheets. No men necessary. **CreamyPeaches**, 39, #115834


HOT AND READY

About myself, black female with short brown hair, full figured professional attached. Looking for a very pretty full figured female also attached for discreet fun. **Hottie**, 35,  #115154

CURIOUS, CLEAN, DISCRETE

I am interested in finding a couple looking for adventure and fun. Playing, etc. if we all are comfortable with each other. No drama wanted or needed. **stormyt**, 40,  #118028


GUNS, CARS, ME!

Young caucasian female unhappy with life looking for several men of Chinese descent to form Triad. Must have fast cars, swank attire, and be well equipped. No Cantonese, Mandarin preferred! **blackswan**, 29,  #118015


QUIET AND TENDER

Need men who are okay taking what they want.I'm out of practice.For 18+ asian boys I would initiate massage. older men would need to be the aggressor. **freemywilly**, 42, #117845


SEEKING VOYEUR-MINDED

Looking for a male to watch while I clean his home. Just sit back and enjoy the view while I clean your house while dressed in nothing but a speedo. **speedoman**, 28,  #117328


READY

looking for fun times in the nude. TVi s I live N. Austin. Inorth. **rogdodge**, 61,  #114892


CLEAN CUT GUY

I am 5'11, 145, 46 looking for friendship and fun or more I enjoy meeting people, entertaining , cooking, boating, working in the yard...contact me. **Istar2000**, 44,  #117205

OLDER MAN WANTED.

bimale is looking for older man to enjoy mutual sexual encounters, D/DF please, prefer top men but will consider all. Looking for long friendship type relationship.. **cwbymarc**, 44,  #116883


LOOKING FOR MAN

Attractive, clean, healthy, white male, 55, nicely built, seeks GWM, non-smoker, with a place for us to meet. Safe only. **115704**, 52,  #115704


LOOKING FOR FUN?

26 dominant black male looking for someone to have "fun" with. Love whips, and handcuffs. I am looking for a submissive male to take control of. **dom26**, 23, #117099


ROCK N ROLLER

Bl dudes wanted. Rock N Roll, swimming at my home , beer drinking . No drugs or std . Attractive 42 male. Evenings and weekends. Tired of hangin alone . **Badrocker**, 42,  #116804

BICURIOSUS FOR SAME.

I'm an attractive (really), fit male, cut, shaved, good personality, easy to get along with, interesting person. I would like to meet someone curious and totally inexperienced also. **theycal-lmestud**, 45,  #116331

SEEKING URSA MAJOR

I like them all: cubs, teddy bears, otters, wolves, bears, grizzlies, polar bears. No beavers, please. Age/ weight unimportant as long as you have enough body hair to keep me occupied. **NVRNUF**, 46,  #116107


BUDDY WITH BENEFITS

Good-looking, Hispanic-Indian, late 20s, 5'7", 135, swimmers built. Want white guy, 25-45, height/weight proportionate for safe j/o, oral, kissing. Must be disease free. Need to host. Send stats and pics. **speedy246**, 28, #115688


MENS JO GROUP

Looking for males who like group j-o to watch or participate for mutual relief. Fitness trainer says this is good exercise. Bi-curious/gay/str8 uniforms/military welcome. **lebonk**, 56,  #115390

MAN RELIEF

Tired of taking "THINGS" in you own hand? Private attention for a masculine male who enjoys being touched all over. Hot hands and total relief by mature bi-male. South. **maJichands**, 60,  #101363


FULL BODY RUBDOWN

35 latino bttm iso Arab, Middle Eastern , Indian or latino male who needs body rub down. Plus hairy chested, hairy bodiesies, mustache goatees. Str8,Bi married. discreet live North Austin. **tedrod24**, 38,  #101244


THEHEATISON

Looking to meet girls/guys(orgroups) to get together for dinner and drinks and see whats what. Basically attractive healthy people that want to have a good time, i'm up for anything! **mrcof-feeman81**, 24,  #116510


HAPPY STICK

Hello, this is a laid back Bisexual male looking to make friends or just have a good time. Love to do many things. Looking for the same. **realmann77**, 28,  #115825


KINKY, SUBMISSIVE, BI-MALE

Kinky 24-y/o bi-curious male seeks women, couples, and select men for discreet encounters, friendships and possible long term relationships. Prefer ages 18-40, healthy and clean. **mrk-bigglesworth**, 25,  #115729


SEXY TS

iim a very sexy, very hot passable transsexual. iim 5'10" 145 pounds with sexy hormonally induced breasts. iim very classy, too, and dress very provocatively. iim 28 years old. **nicole_anais**, 29,  #115140


LOOKING TO PLEASE

In a relationship and seeking a discrete encounter. well versed domination. will dowhatever it takes.pull hair, spank, and choke etc... **steve78705**, 27,  #118004


TEX DOC

Easy going young Dr. that just arrived in town. Join me for a sunset lake cruise. Very open minded - willing to try anything. **tex_doc_2007**, 33,  #118001


SEEKING NYMPHOMATIC VIXEN(S)

Expirence not required. Lessons available in areas desired. Females 22-25, girlfriends welcome. Open-minded individual who can be stern or sensual, ladies choice. **Noncents**, 22,  #117941


GET IN TOUCH!

Lets have some fun! Not looking for anything serious right now like to have a friendly relationship with partner.I always try to be a gent till i'm in the bedroom. **Tazman2468**, 30,  #117927

OPEN MINDED LOVER

I love to give as much as I receive. Very into sex, every aspect of it, our imaginations should be the only limit. I'm a great friend and good listener. **atarax**, 22,  #117861

LAY BACK W/ME


first time here,discreet is good,Im easy going, like to laugh, very busy and looking for a dinner partner and a movie partner occasionally. If it gets physical,ok,if not,ok. **bigswoll71**, 34,  #117840


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K-TEL HIT MACHINE
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BILLY HARVEY

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LOOKING FOR???

overpeirced, underworked loner looking for that special girl to take me away. **bubblebliss**, 19, **#117578**

NEW TO AUSTIN!!!

I am 21 I love live music meeting new people and having drinks with friends. Im looking for a woman between the ages of 20-30. **emeraleyes**, 21, **#116623**

ON THE VERGE

I'm very down to earth, loyal and interested in anyone, regardless of their interests. I'm obsessed with indie music, cinematography, art and randomness. **tigerbeat**, 23, **#116582**

GIVING, COMPASSIONATE SMART-ASS

My sexuality does not define me. I'm just a regular woman, who is a lesbian. I'm into other women who are not too butch, but not "slutty" either. **GreenAthena**, 34, **#117257**

SPONTANEOUS & SMOOTH

i love having fun and doing all i can. i've had my share of huge responsibilities and still do, i'm just taking a break to see what life is about. **rockinsocksoff**, 22, **#116574**

men SEEKING women

SLIGHTLY SCHIZOPHRENIC ARTIST

buddhist lost on the path to nirvana. a mess of a man.9yrs celibate and ready to come out of my cave. more problems than you can shake a stick at. **riotchild**, 40, **#118067**

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men SEEKING women

SPANISH PISCES

full blooded spanish, very romantic, spontaneous, passionate (about everything i do), adventuresome male. new to the area. i love to enjoy life, live music, greatfood, sports, outdoors.. **marius36**, 36, **#117957**

DEEP, RANDOM, OFF-THA-WALL

I just moved from the Dirty H-town. I'm a holistic thinker and love sarcasm. I love House music and am looking for a hip chick to enjoy Austin with. Peace! **househead**, 27, **#117936**

RENAISSANCE MAN

I am open minded, creative and entertaining. Can cook mean Chili Beans and prepare exotic Sushi. Looking for someone to chill indoors/outdoors, Creative and drama free. **Chandengui**, 28, **#117931**

SARCASTIC AND WITTY

I'm looking for somebody who doesn't take themselves too seriously and likes socializing at parties and pubs with friends. Must like to discuss movies and TV shows more than politics. **SlowPainter**, 27, **#117903**

MANOR FATHER LOOKING

Easygoing father of 3 children looking for that special person and see where it leads. I've been told that I look like Doug from the King of Queens sitcom. **RecentlySingleInManor**, 35, **#117863**

MY HEADLINE

I'm lonely.I enjoy the company of others. I love cars and art.I think Akira Kurosawa is a genius.I'm rather quiet and stay in a lot.I'm not tall,dark,handsome or rich.I love cats. **ninjarico**, 23, **#117853**

CURLY HAired FOo

I make you laugh. You should return the favor. **rustymac**, 32, **#117851**

QUIXOTIC DREAMER

Prone to fantastic flights of fancy free. Love music, movies, games, and cooking. Daring debates over salacious subjects. Honest, loyal, faithful, brave. Sometimes, I can even put together complete sentences. **EvilJorge**, 30, **#117809**

women SEEKING men

CREATIVE, CUTE, PEDANTIC

I'm a writer. I'm creative and passionate about everything I do. Funny and intense. An engaging introvert. I'm liberal, sometimes critical. I love labyrinthine conversations about philosophy, relationships, and life. **silvermuse**, 22, **#118036**

SWEET BOIDYKE

I have a passion for life...most living beings close to me included. I'm silly and don't take myself too seriously but do get my shit together when it's important. **ohboiohboi**, 20, **#117646**

COMING OUT GIRLS

Hey my name is Bre, I am 18 I am a I am SUPER shy, sweet I have been with only 1 girl. I am looking for friends or more. **xxxxbre03xxxx**, 18, **#117700**

SPUNKY, INTELLIGENT, HAPPY

I'm a reader and runner. Attending grad school at UT next year. I'm outgoing, but appreciate quiet time when it comes. I love laughing, interesting people, and engaging conversation. **austingirl5**, 22, **#117743**

FRIENDS FIRST!

Looking for friends first! I love live music & to go country dancing. Definitely not into the 6th street scene. I'm upfront and honest & expect the same from friends. **Texas_Girl**, 30, **#117561**

TALL, SULTRY, GOTBACK

Looking for a man that can handle me. I want someone who is intelligent, good looking, and successful and who is not intimidated by my independence. Work hard, play hard. **sexynurse77**, 29, **#117454**

MANY MORE ADS ONLINE!

austinchronicle.com/loverslane

IDON'THAVE2DOTHIS2GETGUYS

looking for intelligent/witty/dry/sarcastic, yet gentle/considerate romeo. must be creative, spontaneous,LOVE traveling,& animals,& my fiestiness/playfulness. (no kids). must love outdoors & natural water-(don't try to fake it or you'll be miserable!). **missmajesty1**, 26, **#117432**

YOUR SWEETEST ADDICTION

SHF 19, I'm up for anything and I always say i'll try everything. I'm looking for a confident guy. The more you make me laugh the more points you get! **charmedstar121**, 19, **#117402**

WHERE AM I?

Just lookin for that right man that has enough balls to be rude, and enough heart to love.. If you get the point of what I mean... hit me up!! **sweet2bme88**, 24, **#116850**

FUN, FLEXIBLE, FREE

I think my friends would say I'm loyal, caring, loving, dependable and a lot of fun. I believe a great sense of humor is extremely important! **nativeaustingal**, 33, **#101367**

A SCATTERED MIND

I am in search of someone with a conscience but not an agenda...and a quirky soul that can appreciate mine. **chas**, 30, **#116654**

I DARE YOU

Not sure what I'm looking for but it could be someone reading this ad. I smell pretty. **1138**, 22, **#118147**

OPEN-MINDED, FUN-SPIRITED, DOG-PERSON

Me: Compassionate, independent, fun-spirited, open-minded, challenges authority, rejects structure, successful, for the under-dog, active in Austin community, social, supportive, dog-person, comfortable swimming against current if honoring values. Same for you? **Wan-nadance**, 35, **#118144**

WILLIE WAYLON ME

Fun loving, hard working, music lover looking for like minded individual. Barton Springs, running on town lake, eating Mexican are all good. Searching for motivated partner and friend. **AustinEric**, 38, **#118075**

READY FOR LOVE!!

I'm a very loving, funny, and caring person. I'm in tune with life and i'm very focused on my career. I'm looking for a woman who is loyal and open!! **jamesbravo**, 22, **#118106**

LIVE FAST, DIE

19 years old film major. Just moved to Austin. Looking for someone laid back with good taste in culture (music, film, etc...). **nspotpictures**, 19, **#118083**

GOOD TIME BOY

I'm 6'0, 200 lbs intelligent and funny, looking for a lady with wit and charm for some casual dining and deep conversation. **captjsmith**, 35, **#118044**

APATHY'S LAST KISS

I am a progressive, original, idealist, altruistic, issue-oriented, charismatic, imaginative, generous, inspiring, open-minded, amiable, inventive, off-beat, but can be rebellious, eccentric,though tlessness, contrarian, aloof, uninvolved, obstinate,unconventional and impressive type of guy. **zerobreeder**, 23, **#117970**

women SEEKING men

WHEN IN AUSTIN...

Moving to Austin in August, and can't wait to explore this awesome city! Care to join? I love learning, and I hope chivalry is not dead! Friends first, more later? **PostTenebrasLux**, 25, **#118145**

FREAKIN AWESOME!

Im simply looking for someone who will be themselves. I like to go to live music shows, love to hear some good deep house music and I love the outdoors. **gogoravah**, 27, **#116777**

SIMPLY STYLISH NERD

"We should be determined to live for something. May I suggest that it be creating joy for others, bringing hope to the lost and love to the lonely.i Leo Buscaglia. **ritani20**, 24, **#118092**

RELIABLE, RAZOR WIT

Sharp as a tack, seeking same. Prefers beer in pints or bottles. Video junkie with a cultivated sense of whimsy. Nice boys welcome to apply. **vintagehandbag**, 24, **#118079**

HIGH HEELS LIFESTYLE

I am a beautiful, funny, laid back, movie watching, fireworks shooting, shy at times chick. Looking for a smart, hot, strong guy ready to have fun. **cut-tiewithabooty**, 24, **#117893**

IM JUST ME

I wish i could find someone whos not surrounded by drama. Someone who wants the same as me... **whitney-maya**, 20, **#117882**

MOSH ME UP

So, I'm a fun, outgoing person who loves to go to concerts, float the river, or just chill at home. I am very open-minded and I am up for anything. **fantasyana**, 25, **#117772**

WAKE WITH ME

Time to find someone to smile with. To laugh with,camp with,look at fish with.Keep me inside when it's cold. take me out when it's warm.Make me laugh,don't be stupid.Nice to meet ya. **staramy**, 27, **#117762**

HEHE;) NEWINTOWN

hello everyone, I'm looking for some friends to chill with and show me where all the hot spots are here Austin, I can't live without music and love watching movies,. **A_J**, 18, **#117751**

Rutani20

A SIMPLY STYLISH NERD

I have a tough shell but a very soft inside, so please dont hurt me. I am a teacher, but I believe I learn more than my students on a daily basis. I love to be outside, reading, walking, biking. If I were not a teacher and had a financial backer, I would be a chef and own a concept cafe. I speak 3 languages, mostly with the excuse to travel, but I am fluent in Spanish and Italian. I love to create (visually and tastefully) and to debate. Challenge me.

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sense of humor, smooth slim perfered. TxChubStud, 47, ☎, #116567

QUALITY4SAME
I think I'm a catch. Why am I still single? I'm a prof gl 32 yo wm 5'10", 160, 31w, slim build, brown hair/green eyes. I'm very laid-back and easy-going. Quality4same, 32, ☎, #116316

JUST friends

LET'S BE FRIENDS
I was just looking for a roommate I like hardcore metal concerts exercise relax-ing sin city and obscure art evenings unwinding with mellow music my best friend is a parrot. contradictoriginal, 24, ☎, #118105

TAKE THAT!
Savvy, resourceful creative type person who likes baseball. Interests include

a Shot in the Dark.....➡

STUTTERING AT HEB
just after midnight, monday, july 24 at the HEB @ hancock. i tried getting out "you have a really nice smile", you had to ask me to repeat myself **When: Tuesday, July 25. Where: HEB. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900852**

IKE OVE YOU
I can't remember when or why I told you I'd place this ad, but here it is!! I hope you enjoy reading it. I miss you. **When: Thursday, July 6. Where: Molotov Lounge. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900851**

NAME WAS STACY
you came into my work last week and today, we talked about 964 numbers and butterfly tattoos. i thought maybe we could get together after your trip. **When: Monday, July 24. Where: downtown Austin. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900850**

O GOLDEN SHEEN
Keele, HEB, Oltorf, (7/18/06) More brilliant than a star at night.. More beautiful than a moonlit sky Was a maiden with shiny hair. And all I could do was stare. **When: Tuesday, July 18. Where: HEB, Oltorf and S.Congress. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900849**

NADYA CEDAR ST
Friday 7/21 - I lost your number. Okay, I am absolutely incapable of program-ming my phone...stupid thing didn't store the number. So I'm hoping you still have my number. **When: Friday, July 21. Where: Cedar Street. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900848**

LOOKING 4 TRACY
Tracy.. OperatingRoom nurse in Austin/RR. We met at Grahams, Friday July 14th. You have a great smile.. we danced and I gave you my number... Hope you call tom **When: Friday, July 14. Where: Graham Central Starion. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900847**

ENGLISH BEAT STUBB'S
3rd grade teacher had wonderful conversation with on rock at Stubbs. Walked out with after the show. Got name. Regretting not getting number. Would love opportunity to continue conversation. **When: Monday, July 17. Where: Stubb's. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900844**

THURSDAY, DOG PARK
You, Brittney, Me, Jason, We talked at Auditorium Shores while our boys went swimming, you had a incredible smile and I was hoping we could meet again. **When: Thursday, July 20. Where: Auditorium Shores. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900843**

cats, movies, public libraries, and oddities. JulietoftheCats, 27, ☎, #117640

FRIENDS AGES 21-28
I am looking for friends to get to know each other and meet one day. mela-nie24, 25, ☎, #115105

INDEPENDENT, INTELLIGENT, QUIRKY.
Okay...basically I am completely home-sick for Austin, but I have some obli-gations I have to fill..so I would really appreciatte someone(s) to converse with...Any takers? missuinaustin11, 30, ☎, #117098

LOTS OF FUN
I have many tattoos and piercings, total animal lover who isn't afraid to talk to anyone. Love good beer. If you like what you hear e-mail me. wildchild, 23, ☎, #116743

SILENT REBEL
I'm musican and my buddies say I'm easily to please. TCB666, 31, ☎, #116735

RAINBOW RALPH
My shirt was amazing? Your eyes were amazing.It would look better on you. **When: Thursday, July 20. Where: convenience store on 51st. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900846**

TO CARNIVAL CUTIE
Snapped a picture with you at Carnival. You: black wings, combat boots, bowtie. Me: corset, white wig, not much else. You're adorable! Perhaps you can help lace me up sometime? **When: Saturday, February 4. Where: Carnival Brasileiro. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900840**

CUTIE SHOPPING WHEATSVILLE
Deli area, Gorgeous blue eyed girl in flowing skirt. You had red grapes,I had green. Said you hadn't showered since art show at Emo's the night before. Wanna go out? **When: Friday, June 30. Where: Wheatsville. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900839**

PIERCED CUTIE-CVS
You came into my CVS. You: cutie with cool piercings and great smile. Me: photo guy complementing your lip piercing. Want to get to know you, please come back. **When: Wednesday, July 19. Where: CVS. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900838**

WANNA NEW HOBBY?
I'm the blonde who asked youa questionin Hobby Lobby. I tried to do that "ask me for my number" thing with my eyes but failed miserably. I can do better. **When: Tuesday, July 18. Where: Hobby Lobby. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900837**

STUNNING, SKINNY-DIPPING
You weren't wearing anything besides a beautiful smile when I laid eyes on you. I kept my distance because of your friend on the mini tube. Catch a bowl sometime? **When: Sunday, July 16. Where: Hippie Hollow (The Far End). You: Man. Me: Man. #900836**

KELLYANN
You take my breath away.Although I'm three years older than what you were looking for. I'm young at heart. Love the outdoors,and passionate.And I re-ally want to meet you, **When: Wednes-day, July 19. Where: personals. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900835**

APPLEBEE'S LAFRONTERA
7/19 You scruffy guy, glasses at bar listening to coworker chatting about computer generated musical animation. Me: guy in white shirt sitting opposite. You looked like you wanted escape. Coffee? **When: Wednesday, July 19. Where: Applebee's LaFrontera. You: Man. Me: Man. #900833**

OUTDOORSY TYPE
Curious, enthusiastic outdoorsy type with a penchant for traveling, camping, bookstores, good conversation and yummy food seeks same. I'm 22, female, and new to Austin as of last week. NewAustinite, 22, ☎, #116340

messages

HAPPY B-DAY BOI ! You make the world a better place! Love, Daddy **TA-WOULD YOU MAKE UP YOUR MIND ALREADY?!!**

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LUMINOSITY I AM such a fool I love please give me another chance MM

CHICKEN BUTT SAYS: HAPPY BIRTHDAY TONY ANASTAS!!!

RACHEL FROM THUNDERCLOUDS
RACHEL! I brightened your 11hr shift at Thunderclouds on parmer, and you brightened my lunch! You made my sanwich with a lot of love, and I want more. Dinner sometime? **When: Monday, July 17. Where: Thunderclouds. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900831**

ARCHITECT F/MONTERREY
Rafael, met saturday night, July 15, Uncle Charlie's. You took my number, called twiced, but left incomplete phone number; tried calling you back, but can't. Call and leave number again. **When: Saturday, July 15. Where: Uncle Charlie's. You: Man. Me: Man. #900830**

BLACK ANGELS/ EMO'S
You: short brown hair beauty on bench outside wearing a white shirt with a chain silkscreened around the neck. ME:handsom photographer with shaved head. Locked eyes want to lock lips? **When: Sunday, July 16. Where: Emo's. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900828**

YOU MELTED ME
#3 bus northbound Manchaca. 2:50-3pm. You-wearing white t-shirt. wear-ing brown tanktop, my hair on top of my head, we exchanged smiles ,your cocky grin and arched eyebrow melted me. interested? **When: Thursday, July 13. Where: #3 northbound bus on Manchaca. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900826**

HOLLYWOOD VIDEO WESTGATE
07.15.06 (Saturday) Ur name is Ben? We locked eyes over comedy - my heart skipped a beat. Maybe I can take a ride in your Volvo? **When: Saturday, July 15. Where: Hollywood Video Westgate. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900824**

COINCIDENCE ON DRAG.
Saw eachother twice / 2 days on drag. Second day you came from behind, said something to me, I missed it. You: short, dark-haired girl. Me:short, dark-haired guy in tie. **When: Wednesday, July 12. Where: Drag at Market. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900823**

STATE TROOPER MAN
You pulled me over today on Hwy 71 on my way to Austin. Handsome, thanks for the break, and I'd love to see you again on different terms. **When: Saturday, July 15. Where: Hwy 71. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900822**

CUTE BOWLER
you: sexy lady that spoke of turtles and the grand canyon. me: danced with bush animals to heart. try to un-derstand try try try to understand I'm a magic man **When: Thursday, July 13. Where: dart bowl. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900821**

THANK YOU FOR never taking that tone with me again. i appreciate it.

:) **8.0.2 I** need a hug

BOBBY~WEAR YOUR STETSON when i'm around. it drives me wild.

SKIPPY, I'D DO anything to see you smile. Dorito

FOR THOSE WHO need it.

M,I MISS YOUR smile,hope all is well

CHARLIE BROWN, I will always be your Lucy. Thank you for keeping me safe!

NEILY, YOU SWAM through my dreams wearing cool pink goggles and i fell in love.

I'M PROUD OF you baby. five months is awesome! i love you lots cazz, my wee lovey.

GOD IS TALKING to you. r u listen-ing? yes, this means you.

G.MARISALINO D.
saw you on the street, hollared from my car. miss you terribly, i still drink coffee, do you? **When: Thursday, July 13. Where: corner of 5th and trinity. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900825**

EMOBOY, BIRDS BARBERSHOP
You- striped shirt, interpel haircut, gui-tarist for someone, so photacular they took your polaroid. Me- redredredhead playing foosball. Like Applesseed Cast?... see you 7-21 at Emos? I wanna strum you. **When: Saturday, July 15. Where: Birds Barbershop. You: Man. Me: Man. #900820**

BLINDPIG ROOFTOP FRIDAY
you: tall, dark hair with couple friends at table next to mine (joint in hand?)me: dark hair, blue eyes, orange shirt with asian friend. Wanted to talk but was closingtime **When: Friday, July 14. Where: Blind Pig Pub. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900819**

BLONDIE GREEN/WHITE BIKINI
7/14 around 2-5 PM Beautiful blonde, brown eyes in a green/white bikini. Exchanged smiles. 3 Guys showed up, we left. Tell me your name. **When: Friday, July 14. Where: Barton Springs. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900818**

7-11 ON LAMAR
You were the Rubensque cutie with the peek a boo tatoo, buying the smokes; I was the bespectacled suit with the Slurpie. Love to see more of your body art. **When: Thursday, July 13. Where: 7-11 on Lamar Blvd. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900817**

GORGEOUS EARTH CHILD
You:beat-clothing, walking on 6th street and congress. Me:khakis and polo, work clothes! Eyes met later through a shop window. Too late, you gone in black Honda. What's your story? **When: Monday, July 10. Where: 6th and Congress. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900816**

UNITY GUY
You--tall guy at church potluck. Me-- dumbstruck as usual. Meet for coffee after service? **When: Sunday, July 9. Where: Unity. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900815**

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsy for July 28 - August 3

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): Travel writer Bruce Chatwin wandered around Australia as he researched and meditated on the indigenous people's beliefs about what the land was like in the ancient past. He wrote: "Aboriginal creation myths tell of the legendary totemic beings who wandered over the continent in the Dreamtime, singing out the name of everything that crossed their path – birds, animals, plants, rocks, waterholes – and so singing the world into existence." Given the fact that you're now primed to create a new domain or two, Leo, may I suggest the aborigines' approach? You'll infuse everything with extra beauty if you play around with *singing* it into existence.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): Once upon a time, you asked a certain someone for a blessing. Instead, he or she blasted you with a curse. The debilitating blow of that bad magic hit you right smack in the place that was ripe for the blessing you request-ed. What a tragedy! Now, at last, you're wise and strong enough to defeat the power of that old curse. Here's the first step: Understand that the seed of the blessing you once needed (and still need) is hidden within and obscured by the curse. Figure out what that blessing is, and it will reveal to you what to do next. (p.s.: The French word for "wound" is *blesserie*. It suggests that blessing can come from wounding.)

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): I foresee the possibility of a *Jerry Springer* kind of week ahead for some of you Libras. You might seek romantic relationships with incarcerated criminals, or embark on a diet that requires you to eat three pints of ice cream per day, or try to take out your frustrations by spitting in the faces of unheing teenage boys in mosh pits at punk concerts. On the other hand, there is also the possibility that many of you Libras will be pursuing unusual departures from the routine that would be more appreciated by the Dalai Lama than Jerry Springer. For instance, you might teach your skills to a class in a penitentiary, go on a juice fast to purify yourself in preparation for a confrontation with abusive authorities, or express your righteous indignation at injustice by volunteering at a battered women's shelter. Whether you go more in the direction of Jerry Springer or the Dalai Lama will all depend on how craftily you wield your free will.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): Many people regard Evangeline Lilly, star of TV's *Lost*, as an exceptionally attractive woman. When she was younger, that was a problem for her. "I spent many nights crying myself to sleep," she has said, "wishing I was ugly because of the way men leered at and disrespected me." In my studies of human nature, I've found that most of us, like Lilly, have had a tormented relation-ship with our most extravagant assets. Fortunately for you, Scorpio, you now have an enhanced capacity to be at peace with and thoroughly enjoy the potent effects your beauty and power have on the world.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): Philosopher Robert Anton Wilson wrote an article called "How to Live Eleven Days in 24 Hours." I'm borrowing the title to serve as your theme in the coming days. Your instinct for smart risks is finely tuned, and your ability to cram adroit intensity into every one of your experiences is high – so much so that you could probably harvest 11 days' worth of sexy lessons in several differ-ent 24-hour periods just ahead.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): "Hundreds of articles in medical journals claiming to be written by academics or doctors have been penned by ghostwriters in the pay of drug companies," according to *Guardian* (www.snipurl.com/nqso). Is this one more sign of cor-ruption in the pharmaceutical industry? Yes. And further evidence that you should be very skeptical of all authorities everywhere? Sure. But it's also a metaphor that could prove useful to keep in mind as you navigate your way through the riddles you'll soon encounter. Be alert for the possibility that what you see is not what you're actually get-ting. There may be manipulative powers behind the throne ... stand-ins pretending to be the real thing ... mouthpieces that hide the true source of their message.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): This week should be pretty *crunchalicious*, Aquarius. You know, crisp and delectable, chewy and pleasing to your inner 4-year-old – like a breakfast cereal with three different sweet tastes packed into puff balls that softly explode in your mouth. The only potential problem is that you could keep wolfing down the treats without any regard for how the experience might make you feel later. I suggest that you enjoy the feast slowly, pausing every now and then to monitor whether you're close to being excessively stimulated or oversaturated.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): Some observers have expressed derisive opinions about Guy Boos, a Wisconsin man who hurled his washing machine down a flight of stairs and pumped it full of bullets with his .25-caliber gun. I, on the other hand, admire those who take out their frustration and rage on inanimate objects rather than on animals or other human beings. That's why I advise you to consider Boos' methodology if you find yourself on the verge of boiling over, Pisces. Don't repress your negative feelings, but find a way to express them that doesn't cost you anything more than a little money.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): "The honest man must be a perpetual renegade," said French essayist Charles Péguy. The honest woman must be one, too, I would add. While that's always a good rule to keep in mind, it will be especially apropos for you in the coming weeks, Aries. If you hope to remain true to yourself and in alignment with your highest integrity, you will have to maintain a rebellious vigilance. By the way, that does not mean you should constantly be agitated, fuming, and off-kilter. On the contrary, the healthiest insurrectionary fervor you can muster will be full of exuberance and joie de vivre.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): "One morning I came upon a small demonstration on a street corner," wrote Sparrow in *The Sun*. "Several men were holding signs that said BRING BACK DUSK, and shouting, 'Dusk! Give us dusk!' 'But dusk will come again this evening,' I pointed out to one of them. 'We don't care,' he replied, with a wild look. 'We want it now!'" If and when you become impatient in the coming week, Taurus, remember Sparrow's story. Progress will proceed at its own pace, not yours. The peaches will ripen when they are ready, not necessarily when you are.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): In their article "Most Popular Myths in Science" (www.tinyurl.com/h2mya), editors at LiveScience.com analyzed ideas that are dear to conventional wisdom. They debunked the notions that lightning never strikes twice in the same place, that humans only use 10% of their brains, and that it's safe to eat food that has been on the floor for less than five seconds. But they affirmed certain other "myths." A falling cat does pretty much always land on its feet, they found. Yawning is indeed contagious. Eating two poppy-seed bagels can produce a positive result for opiates on a drug test. I bring this up, Gemini, as a prod to get you to take inventory of your own opinions, assumptions, and storylines. This is a perfect moment to not just question your beliefs, but to give them the third degree.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): The dreams you have in the coming nights may be disturbing. Eagles may be dive-bombing warm and fuzzy little sheep. Lions may be pouncing on gentle deer, and big bullies may be stealing the lunch money of cute little kids on the playground. You should not, however, view these dreams as bad omens. If you respond to them correctly, they will not turn out to be prophecies about literal developments in your waking life. And what is the correct response? Toughen up the part of you whose feelings are too easily hurt. Strengthen the protection that surrounds your vulnerabilities. Stand up for yourself with a courage that is graceful, not macho.

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